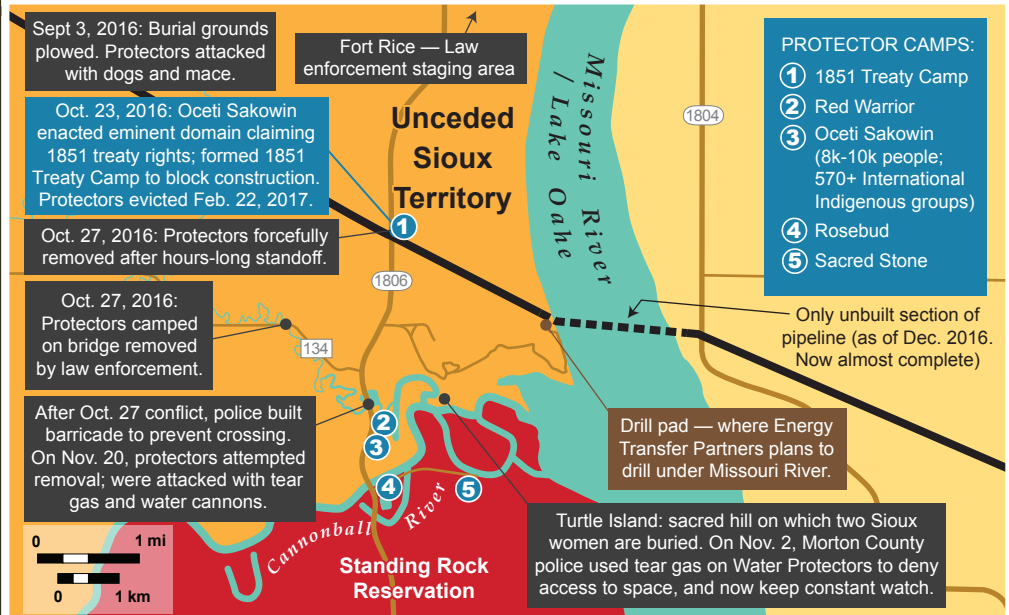
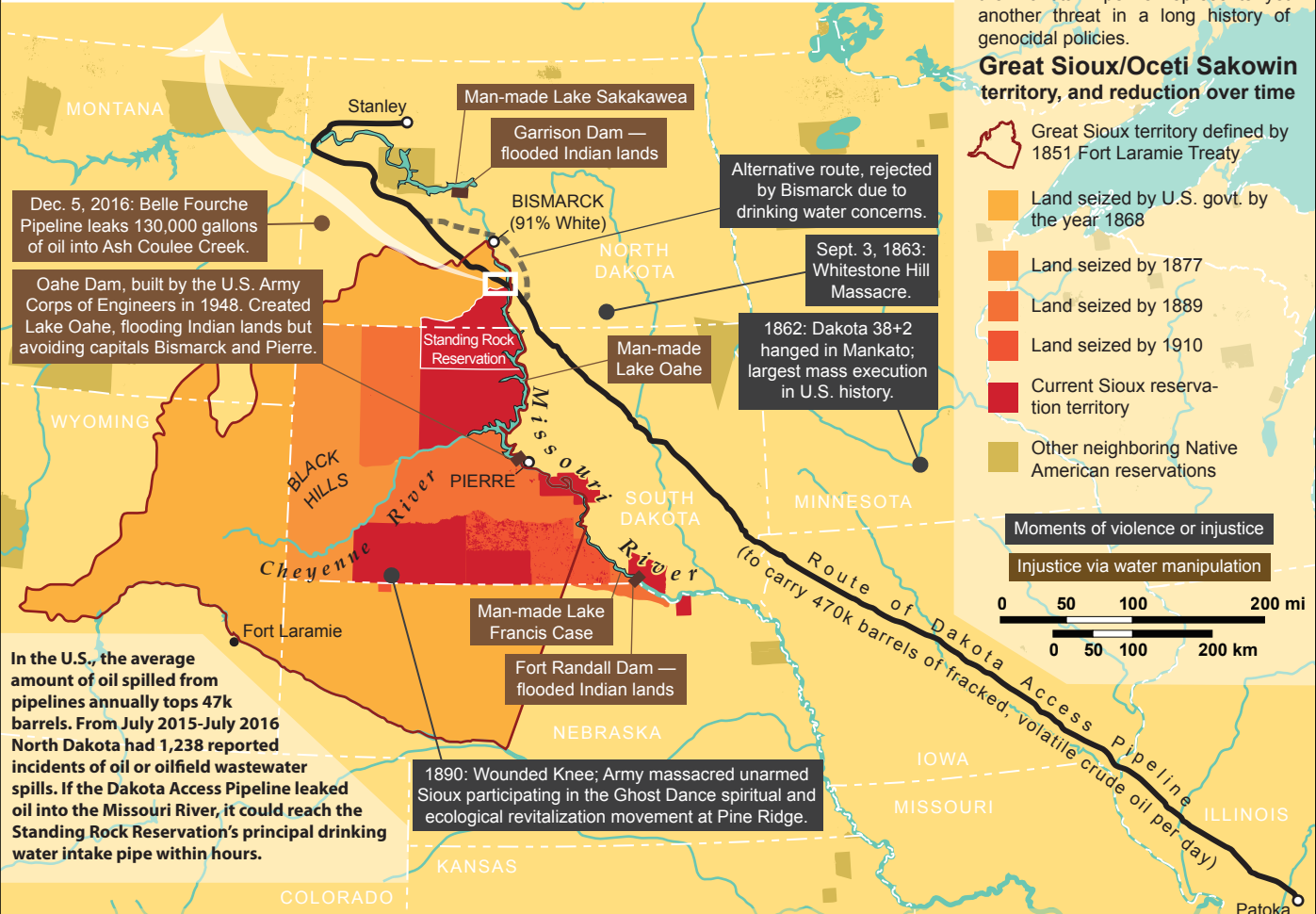


DEFENDING SACRED WATER

THE DAKOTA ACCESS PIPELINE IN CONTEXT



For more than 150 years, the US government has waged a sustained environmental war against the Sioux. Unable to defeat mounted warriors on the battlefield, the US army massacred buffalo herds in the 1860s-70s in order to starve the Sioux into submission. In violation of treaties, army officers led gold prospecting missions into the Black Hills in 1874. During the ensuing gold rush, miners murdered Sioux without penalty and contaminated streams with mercury. After seizing the Black Hills in 1877, the federal government dismembered the Great Sioux reservation into several smaller reservations including Standing Rock in 1889, coerced native families into accepting 160 acre parcels, and then allotted "extra" agricultural lands to white settlers. During the mid twentieth century, the Army Corps of Engineers constructed a series of dams on the Missouri river, flooding 200,000 acres of Standing Rock Reservation and destroying 90% of the remaining trees. Today, Energy Transfer Partners and the Dakota Access Pipeline threaten the drinkable water at Standing Rock with petrochemical contamination, and have bulldozed sacred cultural sites in the building process. For the Sioux, the Dakota Pipeline represents yet another threat in a long history of genocidal policies.



In the U.S., the average amount of oil spilled from pipelines annually tops 47k barrels. From July 2015-July 2016 North Dakota had 1,238 reported incidents of oil or oilfield wastewater spills. If the Dakota Access Pipeline leaked oil into the Missouri River, it could reach the Standing Rock Reservation's principal drinking water intake pipe within hours.

Version 5, 2/23/17, for print. CC BY-SA. Created by M. Roy Cartography in collaboration with the UC Davis Native American Studies Dept. Coordinated by Liza Grandia, Cinthya Ammerman, and Jessa Rae Growing Thunder. Intro by Mike Mortimer. Additional research: Anthony Burris, Kimiara Ward. Sources: U.S. Census (state and res. boundaries); State Historical Society of North Dakota (Treaty Boundaries); National Geographic (land reduction boundaries); Energy Transfer (pipeline route); Seattle Times (alt. route); Members of Oceti Sakowin (camps, recent attacks, and drill pad locations); Pipeline and Haz. Materials Safety Admin. (Spill data). Projection: NAD 83 N Dakota S. This map is printable on 8.5"x11" paper.