

## Land Back as a Key Policy Strategy for Climate Action

Coalition to dismantle the  
Doctrine of Discovery



[HF 4304](#) / [SF 3480](#) ~ White Earth State Forest land transfer to the White Earth Band of Minnesota Chippewa Tribe ~ White Earth State Forest land transfer to the White Earth Band of Minnesota Chippewa Tribe requirement; tax-forfeited land disposition modification; White Earth State Forest Elimination. This bill would return approximately 155,000 acres of State Forest Land back to the White Earth Band.

**Please support the return of state-owned land to the stewardship of Native peoples.**

### **Causes of Climate Change and Ecological Devastation:**

- The U.S. used policies such as the Dawes Act, the Indian Reorganization Act, the Indian Removal Act, the Indian Relocation act, boarding schools, and death marches to wrest the land from Indigenous Peoples and disrupt their cultures.
- Ecological disruption is caused by the exploitative practices of capitalism and white settler colonialism, and Western ideas about economy and dominance.
- Climate change is the result of existing systems of capitalism, extraction, and land ownership that contribute to ongoing climate change.
- The origins of both capitalism and climate change are land theft; we need solutions that return land to Indigenous Peoples' stewardship.

### **Support for Indigenous Land Management and Land Back:**

- There is a lot of evidence that Indigenous traditional land management practices increase biodiversity, which is necessary for healthy ecosystems that we all depend on.
- Indigenous Peoples make up 5% of the global population, yet protect 80% of the world's biodiversity (United Nations statistic).
- Native peoples are often consulted for their land knowledge, without being given opportunities to practice their worldviews and protocols. Native culture practices can address climate harms created by a colonial government.
- Indigenous worldviews don't treat land as property; rather, caring for land is a spiritual endeavor, of reciprocity with, responsibility and respect for more-than-human relatives.

**Please support land return and the revitalization of Indigenous lifeways. When Native cultures prevail, we all benefit from increased biodiversity in soil, plant, and animal life.**