KENNEWICK MAN KEY

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1. Where and how did the bones get found?

2 students were walking along the bank of the Columbia River and found them scattered along the bank.

1. What happened next? Who got involved?

Police thought it was a murder. The coroner dated the bones and found they were older than they thought. Forensic anthropologist James Chatterling was called in to investigate

1. How old did the skeleton prove to be? Over 9000 years old
2. What clues were in the bones? Prehistoric spearhead imbedded in his hip
3. Physical attributes of Kennewick Man:

5’8”-5’9” , 40-55 years old, tall, poised, symmetrical, handsome, was wounded often, looked like Patrick Stewart

1. What controversy did the Kennewick Man present to Native Americans?

NAs thought K-Man had to be an ancestor as he is so old. NA demanded right to bury him

Belief is you don’t mess with remains

It violates everything they believe.

1. What was the scientist’s argument against the Native American’s claim? How did Chatters prove his point? Compared skulls of NA/Caucasoid. Noted differences. Contacted Doug Owsley at the Smithsonian to help research.
2. What did the US Army Core of Engineers have to do with the controversy? What decision did they come to? They sided with NA’s and demanded bones back. Scientists filed a law suit to stop them and it went to court.
3. How does the discovery of skeletons like “Kennewick Man” challenge the idea of “First Nation” Native Americans? NA believe they were here first, and get a lot of privileges because of that:

Fishing rights, casinos, reservations, free Govt services and goods….

1. What was the court ruling? Confiscated bones and locked away until further study determines whether it’s NA or Caucasoid.
2. What did the US Army Core of Engineers do next? Gave scientists 5 days, then poured tons of dirt over the site, and planted trees on the bank.