

Canada's Environmental Hotspots: Wildfires, Biodiversity Targets, and Policy

Environment · Answer Key · 10 Questions

1. In the context of Canada's 2024 wildfire season, how does its severity compare to the record-breaking 2023 season in terms of hectares burned?

- A) It was less severe, with significantly fewer hectares burned.**
- B) It was similar in severity, with a comparable number of hectares burned.
- C) It was more severe, with a higher number of hectares burned.
- D) Data for 2024 is not yet available for comparison.

2. What is a primary focus of Canada's 2030 Nature Strategy, launched to align with the Kunming-Montréal Global Biodiversity Framework?

- A) Increasing fossil fuel extraction to fund conservation efforts.
- B) Reducing protected land and marine areas to 20% by 2030.
- C) Restoring ecosystems and conserving 30% of Canada's land and marine areas by 2030.**
- D) Implementing a nationwide ban on all forms of scientific research.

3. Which of the following environmental legislations recently underwent its first major overhaul in over twenty years, including the recognition of a right to a healthy environment?

- A) The National Energy Board Act
- B) The Fisheries Act
- C) The Canadian Environmental Protection Act (CEPA)**
- D) The Species at Risk Act

4. As of late 2024, which region of Canada experienced the majority of its major wildfires, contrasting with the pattern in 2023?

- A) Primarily the Atlantic provinces
- B) Primarily Western Canada**
- C) Evenly distributed across the entire country
- D) Primarily the Canadian Shield region

5. The Jasper Complex Fire in 2024 was notable for which of the following reasons?

- A) It was the first wildfire in Jasper National Park's history.
- B) It resulted in no insured damages but significant evacuations.
- C) It consumed approximately one-third of the structures in the town of Jasper and caused substantial insured damages.**
- D) It was quickly contained within a single day.

6. What significant change regarding carbon pricing was enacted federally in Canada effective April 1, 2025?

- A) The federal carbon tax was increased to \$170 per tonne of CO₂ equivalent.
- B) The federal consumer carbon tax was eliminated, with only the industrial tax remaining.**
- C) A new carbon tax was introduced for all provinces and territories.
- D) The Canada Carbon Rebate was discontinued.

7. The 2030 Nature Strategy includes a commitment to protect 30% of Canada's land and marine areas. What is this target commonly referred to as?

- A) The 50/30 Challenge
- B) The 30x30 Target**
- C) The Green Belt Initiative
- D) The National Park Expansion Plan

8. Environment and Climate Change Canada (ECCC) is the lead federal department for coordinating environmental policies. Which of the following is NOT one of its stated mandates?

- A) Preserving and enhancing the quality of the natural environment.
- B) Forecasting daily weather conditions and warnings.
- C) Managing all national transportation infrastructure.**
- D) Conserving Canada's renewable resources.

9. A recent proposal aims to accelerate the federal assessment process for major infrastructure projects. What is a key criticism of these proposed changes?

- A) They excessively prioritize environmental protection over economic development.
- B) They involve shifting assessments from the Environment Minister's purview to regulators reporting to the Natural Resources Minister, potentially weakening oversight.**
- C) They introduce an overly complex and lengthy consultation process for Indigenous communities.
- D) They mandate the immediate phase-out of all renewable energy projects.

10. In the context of plastic waste reduction in Canada, what is the purpose of the Federal Plastics Registry, launched in March 2025?

- A) To track and report on plastics throughout their lifecycle, from resin production to end-of-life management.**
- B) To provide subsidies for the production of single-use plastics.
- C) To ban all plastic manufacturing within Canada.
- D) To solely focus on the collection of plastic waste from marine environments.