

US Cross-Border Environmental Diplomacy: Key Agreements and Challenges

Environmental Diplomacy · Answer Key · 10 Questions

1. What is the primary goal of the Border 2025 Program, a collaboration between the U.S. EPA and Mexico's Ministry of the Environment and Natural Resources?

- A) To exclusively focus on air pollution reduction along the border.
- B) To enhance environmental protection and public health along the U.S.-Mexico border.**
- C) To regulate cross-border trade in endangered species.
- D) To manage water resources in the Gulf of Mexico.

2. The Pacific Salmon Treaty, an agreement between the U.S. and Canada, aims to achieve which of the following primary objectives?

- A) Regulate the fishing of all marine mammals in the Pacific Ocean.
- B) Ensure equitable allocation and conservation of Pacific salmon stocks.**
- C) Establish fishing quotas for commercial tuna.
- D) Prevent oil spills in the Arctic Ocean.

3. What significant environmental crisis have the U.S. and Mexico recently agreed to address through a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) signed in July 2025?

- A) Drought conditions in the Colorado River Basin.
- B) The Tijuana River sewage crisis.**
- C) Air pollution from industrial smelting in the Great Lakes region.
- D) The decline of migratory bird populations in North America.

4. The U.S.-Canada Air Quality Agreement, originally signed in 1991, was expanded in 2000 to address which transboundary pollution issue?

- A) Acid rain and transboundary smog.**
- B) Ocean acidification.
- C) The disposal of nuclear waste.
- D) Deforestation in the Great Lakes region.

5. What is a key environmental provision included in the United States-Mexico-Canada Agreement (USMCA) for the first time in a U.S. trade agreement?

- A) Regulations on deep-sea mining.
- B) Addressing air quality and marine litter.**
- C) Mandatory use of renewable energy in all factories.
- D) Bans on all agricultural exports.

6. The Environmental Cooperation Agreement (ECA) between the U.S., Mexico, and Canada entered into force in parallel with which trade agreement?

- A) The North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA).
- B) The World Trade Organization (WTO) Agreement.
- C) The United States of America, United States of Mexico, and Canada (USMCA) trade agreement.**
- D) The Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP).

7. Which international forum, established in 1996, promotes cooperation among Arctic nations on sustainable development and environmental protection, with the U.S. playing a leading role in some of its working groups?

- A) The Organization of American States (OAS).
- B) The International Maritime Organization (IMO).
- C) The Arctic Council.**
- D) The European Union (EU).

8. The 1944 Treaty between the U.S. and Mexico concerning transboundary rivers primarily addresses water-sharing agreements for which three major river systems?

- A) Mississippi, Missouri, and Ohio Rivers.
- B) Colorado, Tijuana, and Rio Grande Rivers.**
- C) Yukon, Mackenzie, and St. Lawrence Rivers.
- D) Columbia, Snake, and Fraser Rivers.

9. The U.S. Endangered Species Act (ESA) helps protect foreign endangered species by regulating what aspect of international trade?

- A) Export of U.S. environmental technologies.
- B) Import and sale of endangered species in the United States.**
- C) Joint research expeditions for new species.
- D) Cross-border pollution monitoring.

10. Which multilateral environmental instrument, to which the U.S. is a party, aims to protect the ozone layer?

- A) The Kyoto Protocol.
- B) The Paris Agreement.
- C) The Montreal Protocol.**
- D) The Convention on Biological Diversity.