Curecanti
National Recreation Area

Visitor Study
July 2010

Dear Visitor:

Thank you for participating in this important study. We want to learn about the expectations, opinions, and interests of visitors to Curecanti National Recreation Area. This information will help us improve our management of this park and better serve you.

This questionnaire will be given to only a select number of visitors, so your participation is very important! It should only take about 20 minutes after your visit to complete.

When your visit is over, please complete the questionnaire. Seal it with the stickers provided on the last page and drop it in any U.S. mailbox.

Results of this study will be available to the public in 2011 and will be posted on the web at www.nps.gov/cure and www.psu.uidaho.edu.

If you have any questions, please contact Margaret Littlejohn, NPS VSP Director, Park Studies Unit, College of Natural Resources, P.O. Box 441139, University of Idaho, Moscow, Idaho 83844-1139, phone: 208-885-7863, email: littlej@uidaho.edu.

We appreciate your help.

Sincerely,

Connie A. Rudd
Superintendent
DIRECTIONS

At the end of your visit:

1) Please have the selected individual complete this questionnaire.
2) Answer the questions carefully since each question is different.
3) For questions that use circles (〇), please mark your answer by filling in the circle with black or blue ink, or a pencil with dark (e.g. #2) lead.

Like this: ●  Not like this: ✓  ✗  /

4) Seal it with the stickers provided.
5) Drop it in a U.S. mailbox.

Thank you!

PRIVACY ACT and PAPERWORK REDUCTION ACT statement:

16 U.S.C. 1a-7 authorizes collection of this information. This information will be used by park managers to better serve the public. Response to this request is voluntary. No action may be taken against you for refusing to supply the information requested. Your name is requested for follow-up mailing purposes only. When analysis of the questionnaire is completed, all name and address files will be destroyed. Thus the permanent data will be anonymous. Please do not put your name or that of any member of your group on the questionnaire. An agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number.

Burden estimate statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 20 minutes per response. Direct comments regarding the burden estimate or any other aspect of this form to Margaret Littlejohn, NPS Visitor Services Project, College of Natural Resources, University of Idaho, P.O. Box 441139, Moscow, ID, 83844-1139; email: littlej@uidaho.edu.
Your Visit To Curecanti National Recreation Area

**NOTE:** In this questionnaire "personal group" is defined as anyone that you are visiting the park with, such as spouse, family, friends, etc. This does not include the larger group that you might be traveling with, such as school, church, scouts, or tour group.

1. a) Prior to this visit, how did you and your personal group obtain information about Curecanti National Recreation Area (NRA)? Please mark (●) all that apply in column (a).

   b) If you were to visit Curecanti NRA in the future, how would you and your personal group prefer to obtain information about the park? Please mark (●) all that apply in column (b).

   **a) Prior to this visit**

   - Did not obtain information prior to visit ➔ Go to part b of this question
   - Curecanti NRA website: www.nps.gov/cure
   - Other websites
   - Friends/relatives/word of mouth
   - Inquiry to the park via phone, mail, or email
   - Local businesses (hotels, motels, restaurants, etc.)
   - Maps/brochures
   - Newspaper/magazine articles
   - Other National Park Service sites/units
   - Previous visits
   - School class/program
   - Social media (such as Facebook, Twitter, etc.)
   - State welcome center/visitors bureau/chamber of commerce
   - Television/radio programs/videos
   - Travel agency
   - Travel guides/tour books (such as AAA, etc.)
   - Other (Please specify below)

   **b) Prior to future visits**
c) From the sources marked in part (a), did you and your personal group receive the type of information about the park that you needed?

O No  O Yes ➔ Go to Question 2

d) If NO, what type of park information did you and your personal group need that was not available? Please be specific.

2. a) Prior to this visit, were you and your personal group aware of the following rules/regulations at Curecanti NRA? Please mark (●) one answer for each item in column (a).

b) Did you and your personal group learn or learn more about these rules/regulations (via publications, signs, talking to park staff, etc.) during this visit to Curecanti NRA? Please mark (●) one answer for each item in column (b).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>a) Aware prior to visit?</th>
<th>b) Learned or learned more during visit?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>O</td>
<td>O</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>O</td>
<td>O</td>
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<td>O</td>
<td>O</td>
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<td>O</td>
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<td>O</td>
<td>O</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>O</td>
<td>O</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

C) How did you and your personal group learn about the above rules/regulations on this visit? Please mark (●) all that apply.

O Did not learn about rules/regulations ➔ Go to Question 3

O Local business(es) O Ranger/park staff

O Outdoor/wayside exhibits O Signs

O Park newspaper O Visitor center exhibits

O Other (Please specify) ____________________________________________

3. a) Prior to this visit, were you and your personal group aware that Curecanti NRA is a unit of the National Park System?

O Yes  O No
b) Prior to this visit, were you and your personal group aware of the difference between a National Park and a National Recreation Area?

O Yes  O No

4. a) On this visit, how many vehicles did you and your personal group use to arrive at the park? Please write “0” if you did not arrive by vehicle.

______ Number of vehicles

b) On this visit, how many times did you and your personal group enter Curecanti NRA?

______ Number of entries

5. How did this visit to Curecanti NRA fit into your personal groups’ travel plans? Please mark (●) one.

O Curecanti NRA was primary destination

O Curecanti NRA was one of several destinations

O Curecanti NRA was not a planned destination

6. a) On this visit, how long did you and your personal group spend visiting Curecanti NRA? Please list partial hours/days as ¼, ½, ¾.

______ Number of hours if less than 24 hours

- OR -

______ Number of days if 24 hours or more

b) How long did you and your personal group stay in the Curecanti NRA area (within a 50-mile radius of Gunnison)? Please list partial hours/days as ¼, ½, ¾.

O Resident of the area ➔ Go to Question 7

______ Number of hours if less than 24 hours

- OR -

______ Number of days if 24 hours or more

7. a) On this trip, did you and your personal group camp in any Curecanti NRA campgrounds? Please mark (●) one.

O No, stayed overnight but did not camp inside the park

O Yes  O No, day use only

◈ Go to Question 8 ◈

b) If you and your personal group did not camp in any Curecanti NRA campgrounds, why not? Please mark (●) all that apply.

O Campgrounds were full  O Lack of desired campsite type

O Location not convenient  O Campgrounds lacked facilities

O Other (Please specify) ________________________________
c) If the campgrounds lacked desired campsite types or facilities, what is it that you and your personal group needed that was not available? Please be specific.

8. Which other local and regional attractions did you and your personal group visit on this trip to Curecanti NRA? Please mark (•) all that apply.

- O Did not visit other local and regional attractions ➔ Go to Question 9
- O Black Canyon of the Gunnison NP
- O Colorado National Monument
- O Florissant Fossil Beds National Monument
- O Gunnison Gorge Wilderness Area
- O Ridgway State Park
- O Silver Thread Scenic Byway
- O West Elk Loop Scenic Byway
- O Other (Please specify) ____________________________________________

9. a) On this trip, please mark (•) which visitor centers you and your personal group visited at Curecanti NRA.

- O Did not visit either visitor center ➔ Go to part c of this question
- O Cimarron
- O Elk Creek

b) If you visited at least one park visitor center, what were your reasons for visiting? Please mark (•) all that apply.

- O Obtain boat permit
- O Obtain information
- O Use restrooms
- O View exhibits
- O Visit bookstore
- O Other (Please specify) ____________________________________________

c) If you did not visit either park visitor center, why not? Please mark (•) all that apply.

- O Did not need visitor center services
- O Have visited in the past
- O Not aware of visitor centers
- O Not enough time
- O Not interested
- O Other (Please specify) ____________________________________________
10. a) On this visit, in which activities did you and your personal group participate within Curecanti NRA? Please mark (●) all that apply in column (a).

b) If you were to visit Curecanti NRA in the future, in which activities would you and your personal group prefer to participate? Please mark (●) all that apply in column (b).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>a) This visit</strong></th>
<th><strong>b) Future visits</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>O  Attending ranger programs (other than boat tour)</td>
<td>O</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>O  Camping in developed campgrounds</td>
<td>O</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>O  Creative arts (photography, painting, drawing, writing)</td>
<td>O</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>O  Day hiking</td>
<td>O</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>O  Fishing</td>
<td>O</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>O  General sightseeing</td>
<td>O</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>O  Horseback riding</td>
<td>O</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>O  Kayaking/rafting/canoeing</td>
<td>O</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>O  Learning/studying geology</td>
<td>O</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>O  Motor boating</td>
<td>O</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>O  Nature study (wildlife, birds, wildflowers, etc.)</td>
<td>O</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>O  Overnight backpacking</td>
<td>O</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>O  Picnicking</td>
<td>O</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>O  Rock climbing</td>
<td>O</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>O  Taking Morrow Point boat tour</td>
<td>O</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>O  Other (Please specify below)</td>
<td>O</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

This visit ___________________ Future visits ___________________

c) Which **one** of the above activities in column (a) was most important to you and your personal group on this visit to Curecanti NRA?

d) What resources and/or facilities would enhance your personal groups’ participation in this activity? Please explain.
11. On this visit to Curecanti NRA, which of the following sites did you and your personal group visit? Please mark (●) all that apply.

- [ ] East Portal
- [ ] Crystal Creek
- [ ] Cimarron
- [ ] East Cimarron
- [ ] Hermits Rest
- [ ] Pioneer Point
- [ ] Pine Creek
- [ ] Lake Fork
- [ ] Ponderosa
- [ ] McIntyre Gulch
- [ ] Red Creek
- [ ] Dillon Pinnacles
- [ ] Dry Gulch
- [ ] Elk Creek
- [ ] East Elk Creek
- [ ] Dry Creek
- [ ] Willow Creek
- [ ] Old Stevens Creek
- [ ] Iola
- [ ] Steven Creek
- [ ] Beaver Creek
- [ ] Cooper Ranch
- [ ] Neversink
- [ ] Riverway
- [ ] Other (specify)

12. If you were to visit Curecanti NRA in the future, which of the following commercial services would you and your personal group like to have available? Please mark (●) all that apply.

- [ ] Not interested in commercial services ➔ Go to Question 13
- [ ] Boat rental
- [ ] Guided fishing trip
- [ ] Bookstore
- [ ] Restaurant/food service
- [ ] Grocery/camp store
- [ ] Snack/vending machine
- [ ] Marina facilities
- [ ] Souvenir/gift shop
- [ ] Other (Please specify)
13. a) If you were to visit Curecanti NRA in the future, would you and your personal group be interested in the following additional activities? Please mark (●) Yes or No for each activity in column (a).

b) For the activity in which you and your personal group would be interested, where would you prefer that it take place? Please indicate a preference for inside or outside the park by marking the appropriate choice in column (b). If you are interested in both locations, mark (●) both.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>a) Interested in activity?</th>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>b) Location of activity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Activity inside the park</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>O</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>Day hiking on one day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>O</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>Day hiking on multiple days (not including overnight backpacking)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>O</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>Overnight backpacking</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>O</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>Kayaking/canoeing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>O</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>Mountain biking</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>O</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>Ranger-led programs</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

14. a) Please indicate how safe you and your personal group felt in the following locations during this visit to Curecanti NRA. Please mark (●) one answer for each location.

b) If you marked that you felt “very unsafe” or “somewhat unsafe” for any of the above locations, please explain where and why.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Very unsafe</th>
<th>Somewhat unsafe</th>
<th>Neither safe nor unsafe</th>
<th>Somewhat safe</th>
<th>Very safe</th>
<th>Did not use/visit location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>At overlooks</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>O</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>In campsites</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>O</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>In parking areas</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>O</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>On roads</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>O</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>On trails</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>O</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Reason for feeling unsafe</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
15. a) Please mark (●) all the visitor services and facilities that you or your personal group used during this visit to the Curecanti NRA.

b) Next, for only those services and facilities that you or your personal group used, please rate their importance from 1-5.

c) Finally, for only those services and facilities that you or your personal group used, please rate their quality from 1-5.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>a) Visitor services and facilities used</th>
<th>b) If used, how important?</th>
<th>c) If used, what quality?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>O Assistance from park staff</td>
<td>1=Not important</td>
<td>1=Very poor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>O Boat docks</td>
<td>2=Somewhat important</td>
<td>2=Poor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>O Campsites</td>
<td>3=Moderately important</td>
<td>3=Average</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>O Curecanti NRA website:</td>
<td>4=Very important</td>
<td>4=Good</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>O Junior Ranger program</td>
<td>5=Extremely important</td>
<td>5=Very good</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>O Marina</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>O Outdoor exhibits</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>O Park brochure/map</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>O Picnic areas</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>O Ranger-led programs</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>O Restaurant</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>O Sales items in park bookstore (selection, price, etc.)</td>
<td>1=Not important</td>
<td>1=Very poor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>O Self-guided tour booklets</td>
<td>2=Somewhat important</td>
<td>2=Poor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>O Visitor center exhibits</td>
<td>3=Moderately important</td>
<td>3=Average</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>O Visitor center restrooms</td>
<td>4=Very important</td>
<td>4=Good</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>O Visitor center (overall)</td>
<td>5=Extremely important</td>
<td>5=Very good</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
16. It is the National Park Service’s responsibility to protect Curecanti NRA’s natural, scenic, and cultural resources and the visitor experiences that depend on these. How important is the protection of the following to you and your personal group? Please mark (●) one answer for each attribute/resource/experience.

| Attribute/resource/experience                                  | Not important | Somewhat important | Moderately important | Very important | Extremely important |
|                                                              |              |                   |                    |               |                      |
| A healthy fishery                                             | O            | O                 | O                  | O             | O                    |
| Clean air (visibility)                                        | O            | O                 | O                  | O             | O                    |
| Clean water                                                   | O            | O                 | O                  | O             | O                    |
| Cultural resources (train, archeological sites, etc.)         | O            | O                 | O                  | O             | O                    |
| Dark, starry night sky                                        | O            | O                 | O                  | O             | O                    |
| Native plants and animals                                     | O            | O                 | O                  | O             | O                    |
| Natural quiet/sounds of nature                                | O            | O                 | O                  | O             | O                    |
| Recreational opportunities (boating, hiking, camping, fishing, etc.) | O    | O                 | O                  | O             | O                    |
| Scenic views                                                  | O            | O                 | O                  | O             | O                    |
| Solitude                                                      | O            | O                 | O                  | O             | O                    |

17. Overall, how would you and your personal group rate the quality of facilities, services, and recreational opportunities at Curecanti NRA during this visit? Please mark (●) only one.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Quality of facilities/services/activities</th>
<th>Very poor</th>
<th>Poor</th>
<th>Average</th>
<th>Good</th>
<th>Very good</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>O</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>O</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

18. Please list one aspect of Curecanti NRA’s story that you would share with family and friends. Please be specific.

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________
19. a) If you were to visit Curecanti NRA in the future, which topics would you and your personal group prefer to learn about? Please mark (●) all that apply.

- O Not interested in interpretive programs  ➔ Go to Question 20
- O Astronomy
- O Geology
- O Fire management
- O Hiking, camping, fishing skills
- O Fishing
- O Plants and animals
- O Other (Please specify) ________________________________

b) Through which types of interpretive programs would you and your personal group prefer to learn about the park’s cultural and natural history? Please mark (●) all that apply.

- O Audio tour
- O Amphitheater program
- O Ranger-led walk/hike/talk
- O Children’s activity
- O Self-guided booklet tour
- O Auto tour
- O Ranger-led kayak program
- O Boat tour
- O Other (Please specify) ________________________________

20. On this visit, were you and your personal group with the following types of organized groups? Please mark (●) one for each.

a) Commercial guided tour group  O Yes  O No
b) School/educational group  O Yes  O No
c) Guided fishing group  O Yes  O No
d) Other organized group  O Yes  O No

(e) If you were with one of these organized groups, how many people, including yourself, were in this organized group?

_____ Number of people in organized group

21. a) On this visit, what kind of personal group (not guided tour/school/fishing/other organized group) were you with? Please mark (●) one.

- O Alone
- O Friends
- O Family
- O Family and friends
- O Other (Please specify) ________________________________
b) On this visit, how many people were in your personal group, including yourself?

_____ Number of people in personal group

22. For you and your personal group on this visit, please provide the following. If you do not know the answer, please leave it blank.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>a) Current age</th>
<th>b) U.S. ZIP code or name of country other than U.S.</th>
<th>c) Frequency of visits to park (including this visit)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Yourself</td>
<td></td>
<td>1=First visit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Member #2</td>
<td></td>
<td>2=Less than 1 time/year</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Member #3</td>
<td></td>
<td>3=From 1 to 11 times/year</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Member #4</td>
<td></td>
<td>4=From 12 to 51 times/year</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Member #5</td>
<td></td>
<td>5=More than 51 times/year</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Member #6</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Member #7</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

23. For you only, what is the highest level of education you have completed? Please mark (●) one.

- O Some high school
- O Bachelor's degree
- O High school diploma/GED
- O Graduate degree
- O Some college

24. a) Are you or members of your personal group Hispanic or Latino? Please mark (●) one for each group member.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Yourself</th>
<th>Member #2</th>
<th>Member #3</th>
<th>Member #4</th>
<th>Member #5</th>
<th>Member #6</th>
<th>Member #7</th>
<th>Member #8</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Yes, Hispanic or Latino</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>O</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No, not Hispanic or Latino</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>O</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
b) What is your race? What is the race of each member of your personal group? Please mark (•) one or more for you and each group member.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Race</th>
<th>Yourself</th>
<th>Member #2</th>
<th>Member #3</th>
<th>Member #4</th>
<th>Member #5</th>
<th>Member #6</th>
<th>Member #7</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>American Indian or Alaska Native</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>O</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asian</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>O</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Black or African American</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>O</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>O</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>White</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>O</td>
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25. When visiting an area such as the Curecanti NRA, which language(s) do you and most members of your personal group prefer to use for the following?

a) Speaking  
   O English  
   O Other language (Specify) ______________________

b) Reading  
   O English  
   O Other language (Specify) ______________________

26. a) Does anyone in your personal group have a physical condition that made it difficult to access or participate in park activities or services?

   O Yes  
   O No  ➔ Go to Question 27

b) If YES, what services or activities were difficult to access/participate in?

________________________________________

27. If you were a manager planning for the future of Curecanti NRA, what would you and your personal group propose? Please be specific.

________________________________________

________________________________________

28. Is there anything else you and your personal group would like to tell us about your visit to Curecanti NRA?

________________________________________

________________________________________

Thank you for your help! Please seal the questionnaire with the stickers provided and drop it in any U.S. mailbox.
OFFICIAL BUSINESS

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