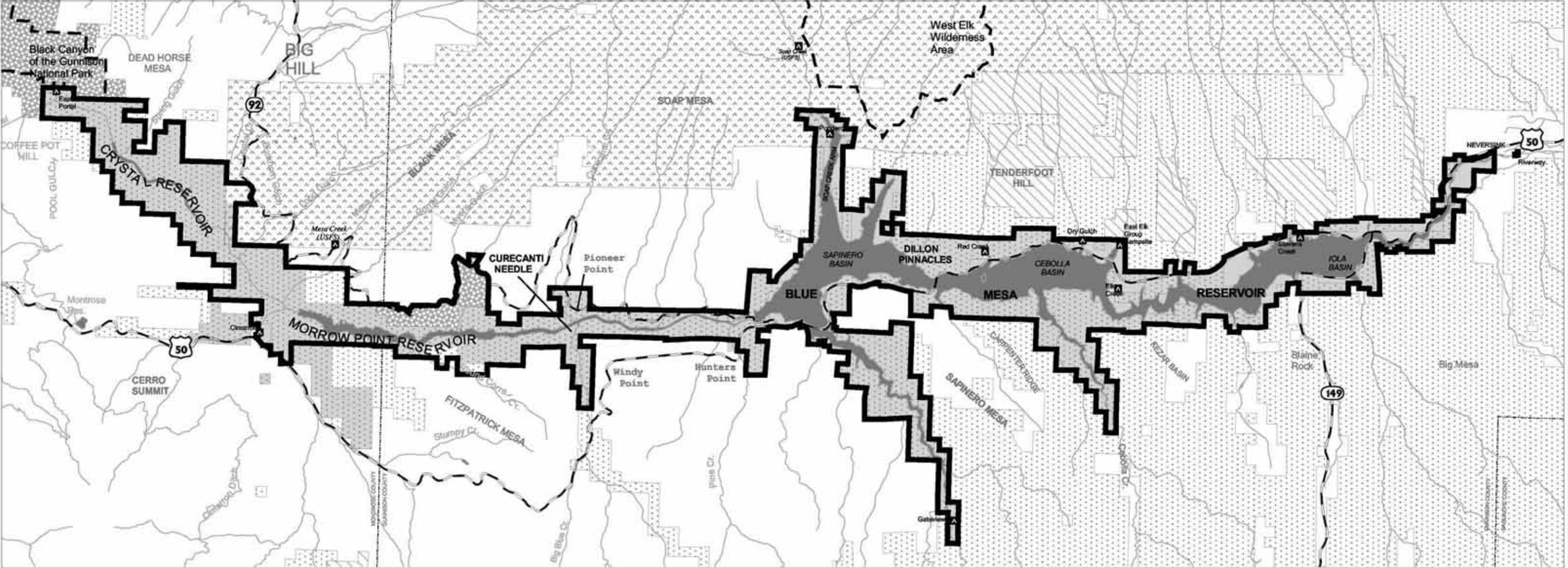


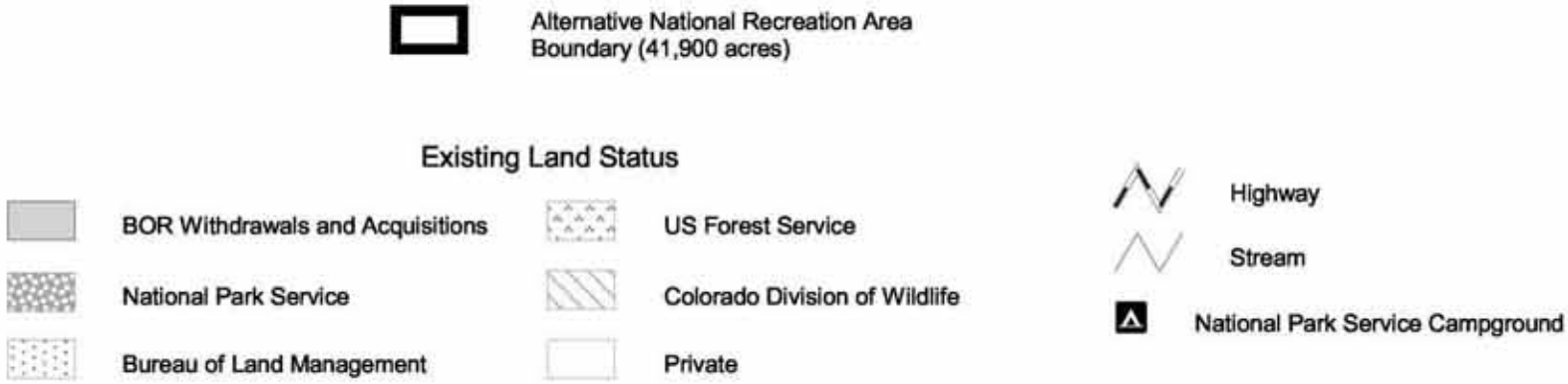


ALTERNATIVE 1: No Action (Continuation of Existing Conditions)



ALTERNATIVE 1

This alternative would include 41,900 acres inside a legislated boundary, which would consist of the existing National Recreation Area (NRA) administrative boundary. This is the No Action Alternative—Continuation of Existing Conditions.

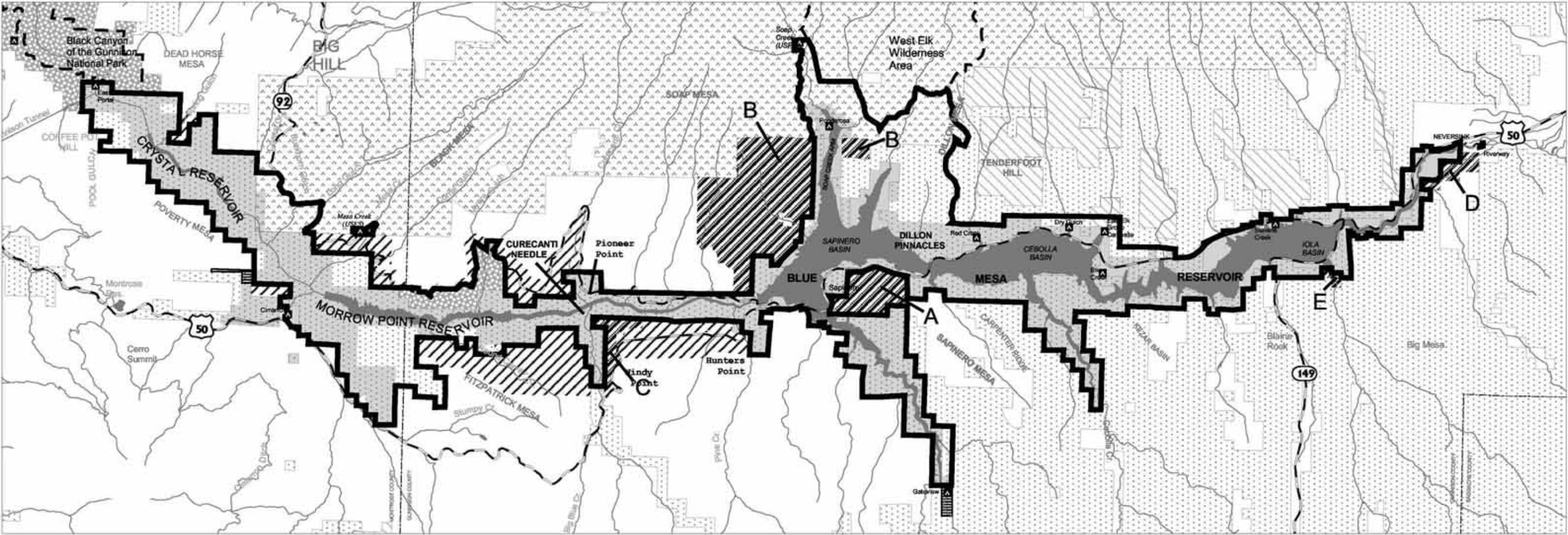


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ALTERNATIVE 2




ALTERNATIVE 2


This alternative would include 52,175<sup>1</sup> acres inside a legislated boundary, and 15,300 acres outside the boundary in a Conservation Opportunity Area. The legislated boundary would consist of the existing National Recreation Area (NRA) administrative boundary, with the addition of certain mutually agreed upon federal and state agency lands, less lands to be transferred to other agencies.<sup>3</sup>


<sup>1</sup> All acreages are approximate.






<sup>2</sup> Conservation Opportunity Area Defined: An identified area of private land where NPS would be authorized to use various incentives and other tools (comprising a "toolbox") to partner with park neighbors to conserve resources. Acquisition (fee simple, access rights-of-way, conservation easements, etc.) from willing sellers would be only one component of the toolbox. The most important areas identified for protection, comprising 7,550 acres, are listed. A Land Protection Plan would be developed to identify additional priorities and methods of protection. Under Alternative 2, NPS would be authorized to amend the boundary to include properties that lie within the Conservation Opportunity Area that are acquired.

<sup>3</sup> Land adjustments with other agencies: Approximately 7,000 acres of Bureau of Land Management (BLM) land, 3,400 acres of US Forest Service (USFS) land, and 125 acres of Colorado Division of Wildlife (CDOW) land would be added to the NRA. Approximately 230 acres of land would be excluded from the NRA to be administered by BLM, and 20 acres of land would be excluded to be administered by USFS. Additionally, approximately 125 acres of other federal land would be identified for use in exchange for the CDOW land identified to be acquired.

 Alternative National Recreation Area Boundary (52,175 acres) including:  
Current NRA (41,900 acres)  
Bureau of Land Management (7,000 acres added; 230 acres removed)  
US Forest Service (3,400 acres added; 20 acres removed)  
Colorado Division of Wildlife (125 acres)

 Conservation Opportunity Area (15,300 acres, all of which are outside the initial NRA boundary, and which includes the Most Important Lands to Protect).

-  Most Important Lands to Protect (7,550 acres) including:
- A Sapinero Mesa (1,150 acres) – Viewshed and wildlife protection, and potential trail to scenic overlooks.
  - B Vicinity of Soap Creek Arm (5,400 acres) – Viewshed and wildlife protection and potential trail to scenic overlooks.
  - C Curecanti Needle Overlook (500 acres) – Year-round hiking/skiing trail and spectacular overlook of Blue Creek and Curecanti Needle.
  - D Across from Neversink (400 acres) – Protection of the heron rookery and historical railroad route.
  - E Southeast Iola Basin (100 acres) – Completes inclusion of entire Blue Mesa Reservoir within NRA boundary at high pool, and riparian habitat protection.

-  Lands to be transferred to BLM (230 acres)
-  Lands to be transferred to USFS (20 acres)
-  Highway
-  Stream
-  National Park Service Campground

Existing Land Status

-  BOR Withdrawals and Acquisitions
-  National Park Service
-  Bureau of Land Management
-  US Forest Service
-  Colorado Division of Wildlife
-  Private

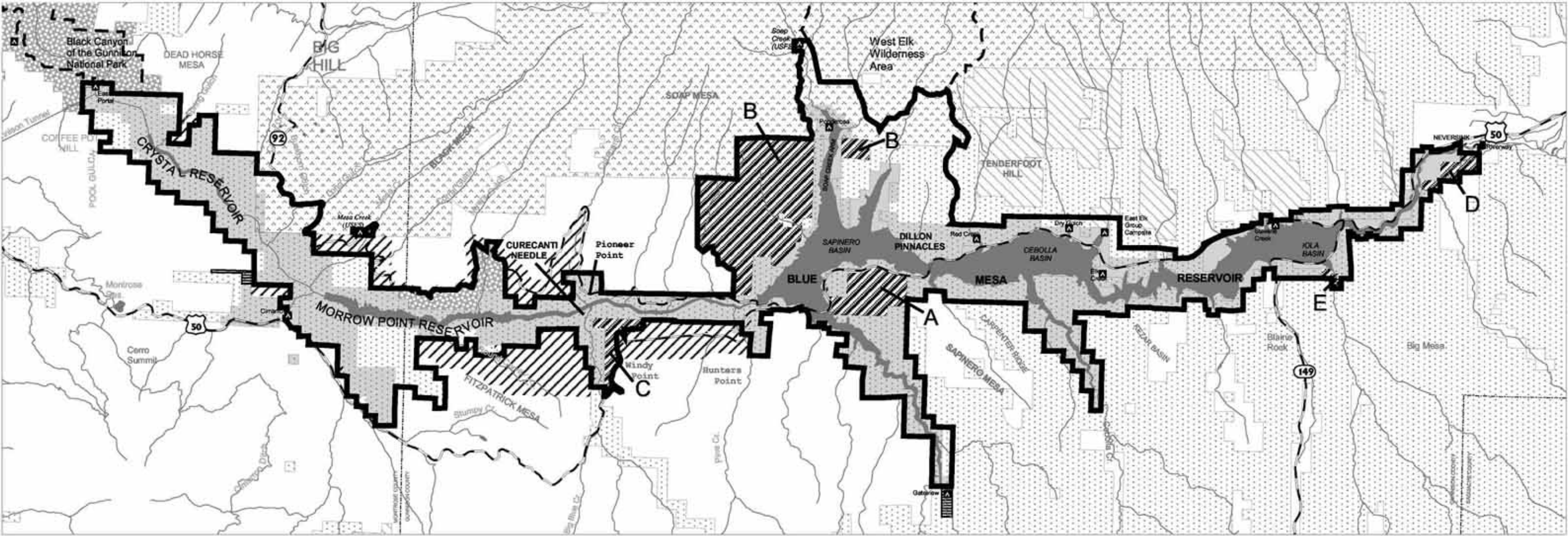


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ALTERNATIVE 3



**ALTERNATIVE 3**  
This alternative would include 59,725<sup>1</sup> acres inside a legislated boundary. The legislated boundary would consist of the existing National Recreation Area (NRA) administrative boundary, with the addition of certain mutually agreed upon federal and state lands, less lands to be transferred to other agencies.<sup>3</sup> In addition, 7,550 acres of a Conservation Opportunity Area<sup>2</sup> consisting of the most important lands identified for protection within this area would fall within the boundary. The remainder of the Conservation Opportunity Area, consisting of 7,750 acres, would be outside the boundary.

<sup>1</sup> All acreages are approximate.  
<sup>2</sup> Conservation Opportunity Area Defined: An identified area of private land where NPS would be authorized to use various incentives and other tools (comprising a "toolbox") to partner with park neighbors to conserve resources. Acquisition (fee simple, access rights-of-way, conservation easements, etc.) from willing sellers would be only one component of the toolbox. The most important areas identified for protection, comprising 7,550 acres, are listed. A Land Protection Plan would be developed to identify additional priorities and methods of protection. Under Alternative 3, NPS would be authorized to amend the boundary to include properties that are acquired when such lands lie in the Conservation Opportunity Area but outside the initial legislated boundary.  
<sup>3</sup> Land adjustments with other agencies: Approximately 7,000 acres of Bureau of Land Management (BLM) land, 3,400 acres of US Forest Service (USFS) land, and 125 acres of Colorado Division of Wildlife (CDOW) land would be added to the NRA. Approximately 230 acres of land would be excluded from the NRA to be administered by BLM, and 20 acres of land would be excluded to be administered by USFS. Additionally, approximately 125 acres of other federal land would be identified for use in exchange for the CDOW land identified to be acquired.

Alternative Recreation Area Boundary (59,725 acres) including:  
Current NRA (41,900 acres)  
Bureau of Land Management (7,000 acres added; 230 acres removed)  
US Forest Service (3,400 acres added; 20 acres removed)  
Colorado Division of Wildlife (125 acres)

Most Important Lands to Protect (7,550 acres within NRA boundary) including:  
A Sapinero Mesa (1,150 acres) – Viewshed and wildlife protection and potential trail to scenic overlooks.  
B Vicinity of Soap Creek Arm (5,400 acres) – Viewshed and wildlife protection and potential trail to scenic overlooks.  
C Curecanti Needle Overlook (500 acres) – Year-round hiking/skiing trail and spectacular overlook of Blue Creek and Curecanti Needle.  
D Across from Neversink (400 acres) – Protection of the heron rookery and historical railroad route.  
E Southeast Iola Basin (100 acres) – Completes inclusion of entire Blue Mesa Reservoir within NRA boundary at high pool, and riparian habitat protection.

Conservation Opportunity Area (15,300 acres, part of which are outside the initial NRA boundary, and including the Most Important Lands to Protect, which are inside the initial NRA boundary).

Lands to be transferred to BLM (230 acres)

Lands to be transferred to USFS (20 acres)

Highway

Stream

National Park Service Campground

Existing Land Status

BOR Withdrawals and Acquisitions

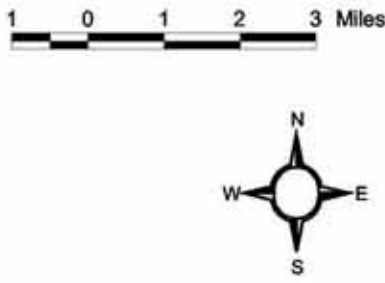
National Park Service

Bureau of Land Management

US Forest Service

Colorado Division of Wildlife

Private

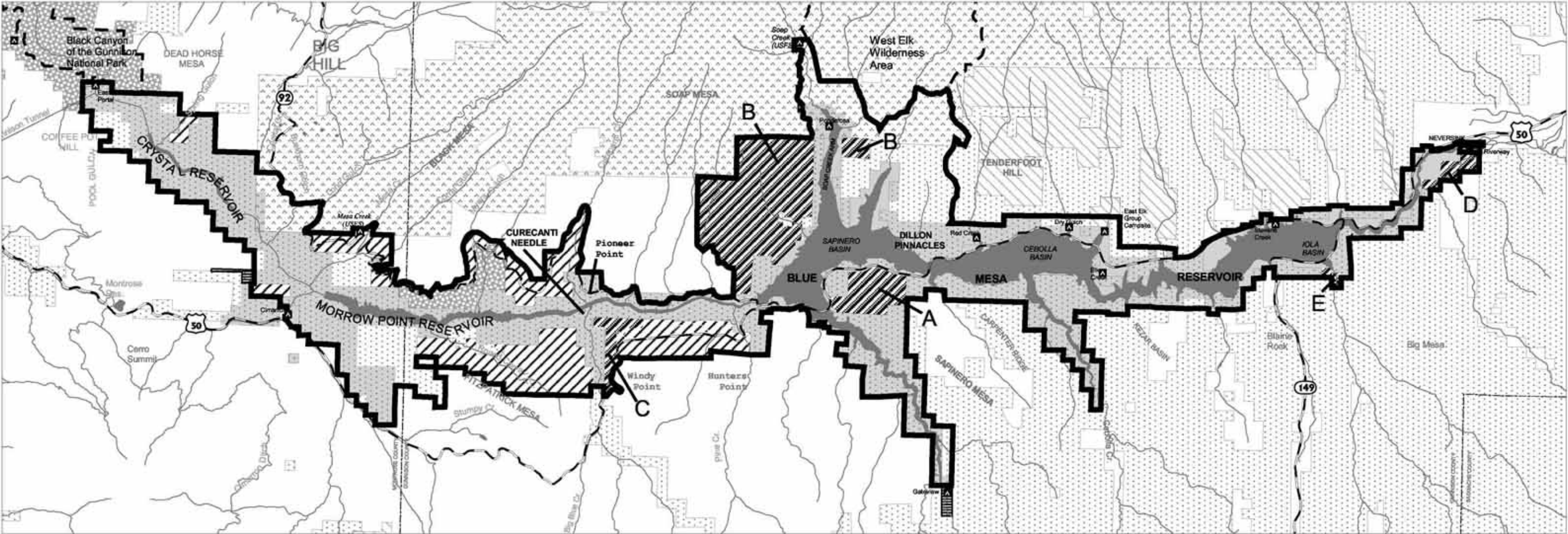


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ALTERNATIVE 4



ALTERNATIVE 4

This alternative would include 67,475<sup>1</sup> acres inside a legislated boundary. The legislated boundary would consist of the existing National Recreation Area (NRA) administrative boundary, with the addition of certain mutually agreed upon federal and state lands, less lands to be transferred to other agencies.<sup>3</sup> The boundary would also include the entire Conservation Opportunity Area<sup>2</sup> of 15,300 acres..

<sup>1</sup> All acreages are approximate.

<sup>2</sup> Conservation Opportunity Area Defined: An identified area of private land where NPS would be authorized to use various incentives and other tools (comprising a "toolbox") to partner with park neighbors to conserve resources. Acquisition (fee simple, access rights-of-way, conservation easements, etc.) from willing sellers would be only one component of the toolbox. The most important areas identified for protection, comprising 7,550 acres, are listed. A Land Protection Plan would be developed to identify additional priorities and methods of protection.

<sup>3</sup> Land adjustments with other agencies: Approximately 7,000 acres of Bureau of Land Management (BLM) land, 3,400 acres of US Forest Service (USFS) land, and 125 acres of Colorado Division of Wildlife (CDOW) land would be added to the NRA. Approximately 230 acres of land would be excluded from the NRA to be administered by BLM, and 20 acres of land would be excluded to be administered by USFS. Additionally, approximately 125 acres of other federal land would be identified for use in exchange for the CDOW land identified to be acquired.



Alternative National Recreation Area Boundary (67,475 acres) including:

- Current NRA (41,900 acres)
- Bureau of Land Management (7,000 acres added; 230 acres removed)
- US Forest Service (3,400 acres added; 20 acres removed)
- Colorado Division of Wildlife (125 acres)
- Conservation Opportunity Area (15,300 acres, including Most Important Lands to Protect, all within NRA boundary)
- Most Important Lands to Protect (7,550 acres) including:

- A Sapinero Mesa (1,150 acres) – Viewshed and wildlife protection and potential trail to scenic overlook.
- B Vicinity of Soap Creek Arm (5,400 acres) – Viewshed and wildlife protection and scenic trail to potential overlooks.
- C Curecanti Needle Overlook (500 acres) – Year-round hiking/skiing trail and spectacular overlook of Blue Creek and Curecanti Needle.
- D Across from Neversink (400 acres) – Protection of the heron rookery and historical railroad route.
- E Southeast Iola Basin (100 acres) – Completes inclusion of entire Blue Mesa Reservoir within NRA boundary at high pool, and riparian habitat protection.



Lands to be transferred to BLM (230 acres)



Lands to be transferred to USFS (20 acres)



Highway



Stream



National Park Service Campground

Existing Land Status



BOR Withdrawals and Acquisitions



National Park Service



Bureau of Land Management



US Forest Service



Colorado Division of Wildlife



Private

1 0 1 2 3 Miles



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