



**ALTERNATIVE 2: PROPOSED ACTION**

This alternative would include 51,830 acres<sup>1</sup> inside a legislated National Recreation Area (NRA) boundary, and 24,300 acres outside the boundary in a Conservation Opportunity Area (COA)<sup>2</sup>. The proposed boundary would include the lands and waters within the existing NRA, with the immediate addition of 10,120 acres of mutually agreed-upon federal and state agency lands, less 80 acres of lands to be immediately deleted from the NRA.<sup>3</sup> The 34,420 acres of COA and immediate additions are defined in this study as the "Proposed Lands." The National Park Service (NPS) would manage the natural, cultural and recreational resources of the NRA, and associated facilities, pursuant to Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation) law, NPS law, including new legislation establishing the NRA, a revised Memorandum of Agreement between NPS and Reclamation (revised MOA), and other applicable laws and regulations. Reclamation would manage its project lands and land interests, water and water interests, and facilities, pursuant to Reclamation law, the revised MOA, and other applicable laws and regulations. The ability of NPS to work in partnership with adjacent private land owners in the service of resource conservation would be greatly enhanced, compared to Alternative 1.

1. All acreages are approximate.  
2. COA Defined: An area of private land surrounding the NRA where NPS would be authorized by Congress to use various tools to partner with neighbors to conserve resources. One of the many tools would be acquisition of interests in land, including fee simple, conservation easements, and access rights-of-way from willing sellers. NPS would be authorized to amend the NRA boundary to include properties that lie within the COA, if and when they are acquired.  
3. Land adjustments with other agencies: Immediately upon passage of legislation, the following Proposed Lands would be added to the NRA --- 5,840 acres of Bureau of Land Management (BLM) land; 2,640 acres of U.S. Forest Service (USFS) land; 1,500 acres of Reclamation land; and 140 acres of Colorado Division of Wildlife (CDOW) land that would be managed by CDOW until such time that NPS can acquire it via exchange for federal lands. Ten "Tracts" have been identified for potential deletion from the NRA (refer to Alternatives Chapter for details). The immediate net addition to the NRA would be 10,040 acres.

- Proposed Curecanti National Recreation Area (NRA) Boundary (51,830 acres)
- Existing NRA (41,790 acres)
- Existing Wilderness Area
- Highway
- Road
- Stream
- West Elk Loop Scenic and Historic Byway
- NPS Visitor Center

**LAND EXTERNAL TO PROPOSAL**

- Bureau of Land Management
- Colorado Division of Wildlife
- National Park Service (Black Canyon of the Gunnison NP)
- U.S. Forest Service
- Private

**"PROPOSED LANDS" DESCRIBED BY LAND UNIT**

- A. Highway 92 COA (private lands)
- B. Blue Mesa Reservoir (agency lands)
- C. Gunnison River COA (private lands)
- D. Iola Basin COA (private lands)
- E. Sapinero/Blue Mesa COA (private lands)
- F. Gateview (agency lands)
- G. West-End COA (private lands)
- H. West-End (agency lands)

**PROPOSED LAND STATUS**

- Bureau of Land Management land to be transferred to NPS
- Bureau of Reclamation land, most of which remains within or is added to the NRA
- Colorado Division of Wildlife land to be acquired by NPS in exchange for mutually agreed-upon federal land
- National Park Service land remaining within the NRA
- U.S. Forest Service land to be transferred to NPS
- Ten "Tracts" of land proposed for deletion from NRA boundary subject to necessary approvals (see details for each Tract in Alternatives Chapter).
- Conservation Opportunity Area (private)

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**RESOURCE PROTECTION STUDY  
CURECANTI NATIONAL RECREATION AREA**

Gunnison and Montrose Counties, Colorado

National Park Service  
U.S. Department of the Interior



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NPS Disclaimer information: Property boundaries shown on this map are intended for study purposes only, and are not intended to be definitive regarding land ownership. County and agency land records will be used to verify ownership and definitively locate property lines and boundaries.

