



Social Science Program
National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

Visitor Services Project

Curecanti National Recreation Area

Visitor Study



**United States Department of the Interior****NATIONAL PARK SERVICE**

Curecanti National Recreation Area
102 Elk Creek
Gunnison, CO 81230- 9304

IN REPLY REFER TO:

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 (O), 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

b) Prior to future visits

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

Prior to this visit _____ 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?

☐ No ☐ 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).

a) **Aware prior to visit?**

b) **Learned or learned more during visit?**

Yes	No	Rules/regulations	Yes	No
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Boat permits are required for all motorized craft	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Campsites can be reserved through a national reservation system	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Mussel inspection is required for motorized and trailered watercraft	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	ORV use is allowed in designated areas or on designated routes	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Personal flotation devices are required for children under the age of 13	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Pets are allowed but must be leashed at all times	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	State hunting and fishing regulations apply	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

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

☐ Did not learn about rules/regulations → **Go to Question 3**

☐ Local business(es) ☐ Ranger/park staff

☐ Outdoor/wayside exhibits ☐ Signs

☐ Park newspaper ☐ Visitor center exhibits

☐ 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?

☐ Yes ☐ 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?
- ☐ Yes ☐ 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**.
- ☐ Curecanti NRA was primary destination
- ☐ Curecanti NRA was one of several destinations
- ☐ 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 $\frac{1}{4}$, $\frac{1}{2}$, $\frac{3}{4}$.
- _____ 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 $\frac{1}{4}$, $\frac{1}{2}$, $\frac{3}{4}$.
- ☐ 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**.
- ☐ No, stayed overnight but did not camp inside the park
- ☐ Yes ☐ 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.
- ☐ Campgrounds were full ☐ Lack of desired campsite type
- ☐ Location not convenient ☐ Campgrounds lacked facilities
- ☐ 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.

- ☐ Did not visit other local and regional attractions → **Go to Question 9**
- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="radio"/> Black Canyon of the Gunnison NP | <input type="radio"/> Crawford State Park |
| <input type="radio"/> Colorado National Monument | <input type="radio"/> Crested Butte |
| <input type="radio"/> Florissant Fossil Beds National Monument | <input type="radio"/> Grand Mesa |
| <input type="radio"/> Gunnison Gorge Wilderness Area | <input type="radio"/> Lake City |
| <input type="radio"/> Ridgway State Park | <input type="radio"/> Ouray |
| <input type="radio"/> Silver Thread Scenic Byway | <input type="radio"/> Telluride |
| <input type="radio"/> West Elk Loop Scenic Byway | <input type="radio"/> Ute Indian Museum |
| <input type="radio"/> Other (Please specify) _____ | |

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

- ☐ Did not visit either visitor center → **Go to part c of this question**

☐ Cimarron

☐ Elk Creek

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

☐ Obtain boat permit

☐ Obtain information

☐ Use restrooms

☐ View exhibits

☐ Visit bookstore

☐ Other (Please specify) _____

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

☐ Did not need visitor center services

☐ Have visited in the past

☐ Not aware of visitor centers

☐ Not enough time

☐ Not interested

☐ 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).

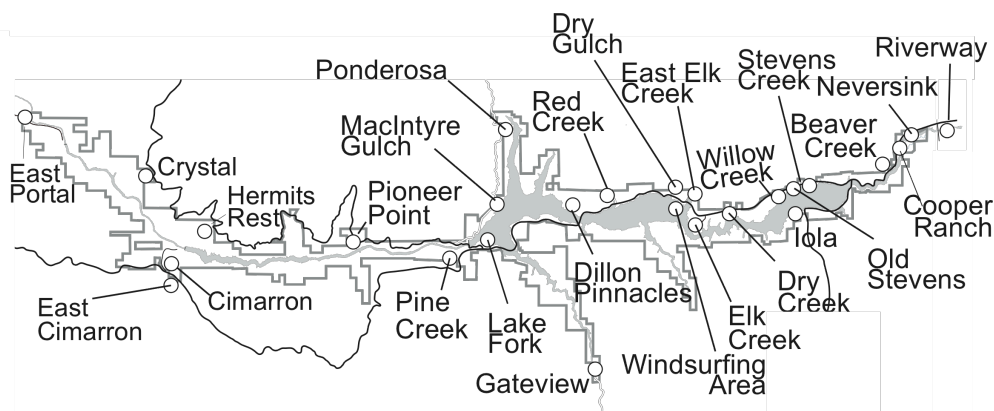
a) This visit	b) Future visits
<input type="radio"/> Attending ranger programs (other than boat tour)	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/> Camping in developed campgrounds	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/> Creative arts (photography, painting, drawing, writing)	<input type="radio"/>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

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.



- | | | |
|---|-------------------------------------|---|
| <input type="radio"/> East Portal | <input type="radio"/> Crystal Creek | <input type="radio"/> Cimarron |
| <input type="radio"/> East Cimarron | <input type="radio"/> Hermits Rest | <input type="radio"/> Pioneer Point |
| <input type="radio"/> Pine Creek | <input type="radio"/> Lake Fork | <input type="radio"/> Ponderosa |
| <input type="radio"/> McIntyre Gulch | <input type="radio"/> Red Creek | <input type="radio"/> Dillon Pinnacles |
| <input type="radio"/> Dry Gulch | <input type="radio"/> Elk Creek | <input type="radio"/> East Elk Creek |
| <input type="radio"/> Dry Creek | <input type="radio"/> Willow Creek | <input type="radio"/> Old Stevens Creek |
| <input type="radio"/> Iola | <input type="radio"/> Steven Creek | <input type="radio"/> Beaver Creek |
| <input type="radio"/> Cooper Ranch | <input type="radio"/> Neversink | <input type="radio"/> Riverway |
| <input type="radio"/> 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**.

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="radio"/> Not interested in commercial services | → Go to Question 13 |
| <input type="radio"/> Boat rental | <input type="radio"/> Guided fishing trip |
| <input type="radio"/> Bookstore | <input type="radio"/> Restaurant/food service |
| <input type="radio"/> Grocery/camp store | <input type="radio"/> Snack/vending machine |
| <input type="radio"/> Marina facilities | <input type="radio"/> Souvenir/gift shop |
| <input type="radio"/> 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.

a) Interested in activity?		Activity	b) Location of activity	
Yes	No		Inside the park	In the area outside the park
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Day hiking on one day	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Day hiking on multiple days (not including overnight backpacking)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Overnight backpacking	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Kayaking/canoeing	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Mountain biking	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Ranger-led programs	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

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.

Location	Very unsafe	Somewhat unsafe	Neither safe nor unsafe	Somewhat safe	Very safe	Did not use/visit location
At overlooks	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
In campsites	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
In parking areas	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
On roads	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
On trails	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

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

Location

Reason for feeling unsafe

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.

a) Visitor services and facilities used	b) If used, how important? 1=Not important 2=Somewhat important 3=Moderately important 4=Very important 5=Extremely important	c) If used, what quality? 1=Very poor 2=Poor 3=Average 4=Good 5=Very good
Mark (●)		
<input type="radio"/> Assistance from park staff	_____	_____
<input type="radio"/> Boat docks	_____	_____
<input type="radio"/> Campsites	_____	_____
<input type="radio"/> Curecanti NRA website: www.nps.gov/cure (used before or during visit)	_____	_____
<input type="radio"/> Junior Ranger program	_____	_____
<input type="radio"/> Marina	_____	_____
<input type="radio"/> Outdoor exhibits	_____	_____
<input type="radio"/> Park brochure/map	_____	_____
<input type="radio"/> Picnic areas	_____	_____
<input type="radio"/> Ranger-led programs	_____	_____
<input type="radio"/> Restaurant	_____	_____
<input type="radio"/> Sales items in park bookstore (selection, price, etc.)	_____	_____
<input type="radio"/> Self-guided tour booklets	_____	_____
<input type="radio"/> Visitor center exhibits	_____	_____
<input type="radio"/> Visitor center restrooms	_____	_____
<input type="radio"/> Visitor center (overall)	_____	_____

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	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Clean air (visibility)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Clean water	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Cultural resources (train, archeological sites, etc.)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Dark, starry night sky	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Native plants and animals	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Natural quiet/sounds of nature	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Recreational opportunities (boating, hiking, camping, fishing, etc.)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Scenic views	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Solitude	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

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**.

Very poor	Poor	Average	Good	Very good
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

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.

- ☐ Not interested in interpretive programs → **Go to Question 20**
- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="radio"/> Astronomy | <input type="radio"/> Geology |
| <input type="radio"/> Fire management | <input type="radio"/> Hiking, camping, fishing skills |
| <input type="radio"/> Fishing | <input type="radio"/> Plants and animals |
| <input type="radio"/> 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.

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="radio"/> Audio tour | <input type="radio"/> Amphitheater program |
| <input type="radio"/> Ranger-led walk/hike/talk | <input type="radio"/> Children's activity |
| <input type="radio"/> Self-guided booklet tour | <input type="radio"/> Auto tour |
| <input type="radio"/> Ranger-led kayak program | <input type="radio"/> Boat tour |
| <input type="radio"/> 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 | <input type="radio"/> Yes | <input type="radio"/> No |
| b) School/educational group | <input type="radio"/> Yes | <input type="radio"/> No |
| c) Guided fishing group | <input type="radio"/> Yes | <input type="radio"/> No |
| d) Other organized group
(business, church, scout, etc.) | <input type="radio"/> Yes | <input type="radio"/> 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**.

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="radio"/> Alone | <input type="radio"/> Friends |
| <input type="radio"/> Family | <input type="radio"/> Family and friends |
| <input type="radio"/> Other (Please specify) _____ | |

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.

	Yourself	Member #2	Member #3	Member #4	Member #5	Member #6	Member #7
American Indian or Alaska Native	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Asian	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Black or African American	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
White	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

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 ☐ English ☐ Other language (Specify) _____

b) Reading ☐ English ☐ 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?

☐ Yes ☐ 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

**Visitor Services Project
Park Studies Unit
College of Natural Resources
University of Idaho
P.O. Box 441139
Moscow, Idaho 83844-1139**

