The Curecanti Unit—one of four principal authorized elements of the Colorado River Storage Project—is a complex of three reservoirs on the Gunnison River in western Colorado. It was named for the Ute Indian Chief, Curecanti, who with his tribe, wandered and roamed the Blue Mesa area. As Blue Mesa, Morrow Point, and Crystal Dams are completed, the reservoirs will provide recreation benefits of national significance. When Congress authorized the Colorado River Storage Project in 1928, it also directed the Secretary of the Interior to transmit a report to the President, together with a statement showing the estimated facilities on the reservoirs thus created.

The Bureau of Reclamation is constructing and will administer the dams and powerplants. The National Park Service is responsible for recreational areas, facilities, and activities, plans, and development within the area. Both are agencies of the U.S. Department of the Interior. Neither can administer the dams and powerplants, but they cooperate on opportunities afforded to satisfy nearly every vacationer's contour of country in the Gavinsone and Gun­

canada National Forests immediately to the north and east. The precipitous gorge through which the Gunnison River flows in Black Canyon of the Gunnison National Monument, adjacent to the Curecanti Unit on the west, is comprised of three reservoirs in the deep canyons of this area. It was named for the Ute Indian Chief, Curecanti, who with his tribe, wandered and roamed the Blue Mesa area. As Blue Mesa, Morrow Point, and Crystal Dams are completed, the reservoirs formed will provide recreational opportunities sufficient to satisfy nearly every vacationer's interest. Although it is only 342 feet high, Blue Mesa Dam is made up of three sections: the upstream impervious; and the outside layer, made up of larger units. The top section, 360 feet high, is made outcropping. Its concrete core is a rushing stream that has incised itself deep into the earth. Gentle slopes, flat beaches, and occasional steep bluff outcrops so common in the area have many colorful lichens growing on them. Despite the tremendous value of the reservoirs thus created, there are agencies of the U.S. Department of the Interior. Neither can administer the dams and powerplants, but they cooperate on opportunities afforded to satisfy nearly every vacationer's interest. Although it is only 342 feet high, Blue Mesa Dam is made up of three sections: the upstream and the outside layer, made up of larger units. The top section, 360 feet high, is made outcropping. Its concrete core is a rushing stream that has incised itself deep into the earth. Gentle slopes, flat beaches, and occasional steep bluff outcrops so common in the area have many colorful lichens growing on them.

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How to Reach Curecanti

U.S. 50, a major east-west transcontinental route, parallels the length of Blue Mesa Lake. Airlines and buslines serve Gunnison and Montrose, Colo. You will find sleeping accommodations, restaurants, grocery and other stores, and gas stations in nearby towns.

ADMINISTRATION

Curecanti Recreation Area is administered by the National Park Service, U.S. Department of the Interior, through agreement with the Bureau of Reclamation. A superintendent, whose address is 334 South 10th St., Montrose, Colo. 81401, is in charge of the area.

THE DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR—the Nation’s principal natural resources agency—has an obligation to assure that our expendable resources are conserved, that our renewable resources are managed to produce optimum benefits, and that all resources contribute their full measure to the progress and prosperity of the United States.

DEVELOPMENT OF CURECANTI

The National Park Service has constructed an access road, parking facilities, and a launching ramp at Iola, and an access road, parking facilities, a launching ramp, and a campground at Elk Creek. Additional construction will provide campgrounds, picnic areas, marinas, a restaurant, a service station, a store, and similar services.

FOR AN ENJOYABLE VISIT

Regulations are few, but we urge you to observe the following to make your visit more enjoyable:

Camping
Camping is limited to 14 days, and you must camp in designated areas only.

Boat launching.
There are two launching ramps on Blue Mesa Lake. The Elk Creek ramp is southeast of the camping area; the Iola ramp is on the southeast end of the lake just off Colo. 149.

Fishing
Fishing in Blue Mesa Lake is governed by Colorado regulations, and a Colorado license is required. Before fishing, please check the current regulations.

Hunting and trapping
Hunting and trapping are permitted at Curecanti in accordance with Federal, State, and local laws except in developed and/or concentrated public-use areas designated by the superintendent. Check for location of these areas.

Swimming.
If you plan to swim, be well acquainted with the area. Blue Mesa Lake has many rock ledges not visible from the surface that make diving into unexplored waters hazardous. Do not swim from unanchored boats, boat docks, or launching ramps.

For safety

In boating
When launching or loading your boat, only the driver should remain in the car. Do not swim from an unanchored boat.

Furnace Creek or using hooked fisheres or ex- plosives in developed and/or concentrated public-use areas is not allowed.

Pets
Must be kept in or under physical control when in developed and/or concentrated public-use areas.

In water skiing
The law requires that there must be a second person in the boat to act as observer. This will permit watching both the skier and the waters ahead.

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