



# Hunting at Curecanti

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Curecanti National Recreation Area consists of over 41,000 acres of public land administered by the National Park Service. Hunting is regulated in accordance with state wildlife regulations and federal law (Title 36, Code of Federal Regulations). Following these regulations will help all recreators at Curecanti have a safe, enjoyable visit.

## General Regulations:

- Hunters must have a valid Colorado State Hunting License in their possession (CRS 33-6-107).
- Shooting from *any* vehicle is prohibited. (CRS 33-6-124)
- Hunters must wear at least 500 square inches of solid daylight fluorescent orange during muzzleloading and rifle seasons. This includes orange on a hat or head covering visible from all directions. (CRS 33-6-121-1)
- It is illegal to abandon wounded animals or to remove only the trophy parts of a carcass. (CRS 33-6-119-2)

## Regulations specific to Curecanti NRA:

- Hunting is permitted in certain areas within Curecanti. Hunters are responsible for knowing all regulations before hunting. (36 CFR 2.2b2)
- The discharge of a weapon from, towards or across the frozen surface of Blue Mesa Reservoir is prohibited. (36 CFR 1.5a2)
- Hunters must be a minimum of 100 yards away from any road, trail, campground, picnic area, facility, or other developed area before discharging a weapon. Shooting toward, across, or from any visitor use area is prohibited. (36 CFR 2.2b2)

**Special hunting restriction areas at Curecanti NRA are as follows:**

	<b>Elk Creek to Lake City Bridge</b>	<b>Lake City Bridge to Neversink</b>
<b>May 1 to Sept 30</b>	<i>Only</i> Shotguns with shot for bird/small game; bows for big game	
<b>Oct 1 to April 30</b>	All legal methods permitted for all species in accordance with state law	<i>Only</i> shotguns with shot for bird/small game; bows for big game

(36 CFR 1.5f)

**ATV Use:**

- Off-road vehicle travel is prohibited. ATVs are permitted below the high water line on Blue Mesa Reservoir where access can be gained by road.
- ATVs are allowed at the following campgrounds only for the purpose of accessing adjacent lands during big game season: East Elk Creek, Red Creek, and Ponderosa.
- ATV use on park roads is prohibited.

**Pack Use:**

- Horses may be used on the Dillon Pinnacles Trail to access the West Elk Wilderness north of Curecanti.
- Horse corrals are located at Dry Gulch and Ponderosa campgrounds.
- Picketing, hobbling, or tying pack animals to natural features (trees) is prohibited in the recreation area.
- Hay used in Curecanti must be certified as weed free in compliance with Gunnison County and state standards.

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**Contact Information:**  
For all emergencies within the recreation area, please call 911. For more information on hunting at Curecanti National Recreation Area, please call or write:

Curecanti  
National Recreation Area  
102 Elk Creek  
Gunnison, CO 81230  
(970) 641-2337 ext 205