

## ***2.0 Plan Area Description and Setting***

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### **2.3.3 Infrastructure Needs**

The demographics clearly lay out the demands associated with growth in population, housing, and jobs that the RCIP is designed to address as discussed in *Section 1.0* of this document. Among those are the demands that will be placed on local governments to provide critical infrastructure, municipal facilities, utilities, roads, parks, open space, and the state allocation of affordable housing units. Infrastructure needs are addressed as Covered Activities in the MSHCP as discussed in *Section 7.0* of this document. The demographics also foretell the increased stress on natural Habitats, native plants, and animal species. Merely recounting numbers does not truly describe the magnitude of the challenges facing Western Riverside County. Only by looking at the demographics in terms of their impacts on all aspects of the Plan Area's infrastructure, including the Conservation of natural resources, can Western Riverside County prepare for the future. The RCIP through each of its four elements looks at the impacts of the growth facing the County and begins the process of building the infrastructure necessary to sustain the natural environment and meet the needs of future citizens.