



### **Box Springs Mountain Reserve**

The Box Springs Reserve is a rugged, mountainous 1,155-acre reserve located adjacent to the northern and western boundaries of the City of Moreno Valley. The reserve is characterized by rock outcroppings, sage scrub, chaparral and grassland areas, and serves as habitat for several species of plants and animals. The Reserve is owned and managed by the Riverside County Parks and Open Space District.

### **San Jacinto Wildlife Reserve/Mystic Lake**



*Mystic Lake*

The San Jacinto Wildlife Reserve is a 7,100-acre ecological reserve located along the northern border of the San Jacinto River, next to Lake Perris and Mystic Lake in the southern portion of the planning area. It lies just north of the Ramona Expressway. Established in 1979, the Reserve is owned by the California Department of Fish and Game. It contains several habitat areas, including wetlands, restored riparian, grasslands, sage scrub, and marshes. Mystic Lake, a large crescent-shaped water body within the reserve area, serves as a significant wetland habitat for numerous birds and plants.

### **Lake Perris**

The Lake Perris State Recreation Area is located in the southernmost portion of the planning area. Approximately 8,800 acres in size, it is a part of the California State Park system. It features Lake Perris, a 2,000-acre reservoir created by Perris Dam. The park includes a large recreational area with camping and RV facilities, as well as a substantial habitat reserve, including grassland, riparian and scrub habitat. The Bernasconi Hills serve as the mountainous border around the lake and its recreational facilities.

### **Reche Canyon Creek**

Reche Canyon Creek is a prominent riparian corridor, roughly paralleling Reche Canyon Road in the northern portion of the planning area through the Box Springs Mountains. It enjoys a wide variety of plant and animal life and, because of its linear nature, is an important linkage in the habitat system.

## **UNIQUE COMMUNITIES**

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Land uses found in the Reche Canyon/Badlands area include rural residential, mining, public facility, tourist and recreational uses. Open space and rural uses are the primary land uses in the area. Existing residential developments in the area are located off of Reche Canyon Road, in the community of Reche Canyon, and in scattered rural enclaves in the northern portion of the planning area.