The Big Chico Creek Ecological Reserve contains 3,950 acres of diverse canyon and ridge habitats, including 4.5 miles of Big Chico Creek, and is home to many species of plants and animals. BCCER was created with the purchase of the Simmons Ranch in 1999 and the Henning Ranch in 2001. It is owned and managed by the California State University, Chico, Research Foundation.

The Reserve ranges in elevation from 700 feet to 2,044 feet and contains a wide variety of habitats, including creek riffles and pools, riparian areas, oak woodlands, chaparral, pine forest, rock cliffs, and springs. These diverse habitats support more than 140 different wildlife species, including a number of listed species and species requiring large tracts of undisturbed habitat. BCCER contributes to the understanding and wise management of the Earth and its natural systems by preserving critical habitat, and providing a natural area for environmental research and education.

The Big Chico Creek Ecological Reserve (BCCER) is owned by the University Research Foundation and managed by the Institute for Sustainable Development of the California State University, Chico. The BCCER was acquired in two land purchases in 1999 and 2001. The University Research Foundation purchased 3,950 acres of land with grant money from the Wildlife Conservation Board, the Packard Foundation, the US Fish and Wildlife Service, the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation, the River Network, and Jack Henning.

Contour Interval: 40 Feet

Waterway
Point of Interest
Locked Gate
Foot Trail
Reserve Boundary
Management Access
User Access Roadway
Barn
Cabin
Restrooms
Information
Parking Area
Headquarters
Hunt Zones