



# Technical and Advisory Committees Meeting

December 2, 2020



# Sustainability Zone Concepts Discussion

# Key Points

- The MSGSA is geographically and hydrologically diverse
- Sustainability Zones (SZ) are only being created for the MSGSA
- SZs may facilitate implementation of GSP projects and management actions:
  - An allocation of native groundwater, if implemented as a demand reduction tool, may need to vary based upon local conditions
  - Recharge or water supply projects may benefit limited areas
  - Other demand reduction actions may need to focus on certain areas
  - Fees may have to vary in relation to projects and management actions
- The number and extent of SZs also needs to consider principles such as:
  - Fairness
  - Simplicity
  - Flexibility
  - MSGSA administrative burden

# Attributes

Sustainability Zones are considering the following attributes:

- cropping and land uses
- geopolitical boundaries
- groundwater levels
- irrigated versus non-irrigated areas
- water rights
- subsidence issues
- sources of recharge
- aquifer characteristics
- water quality

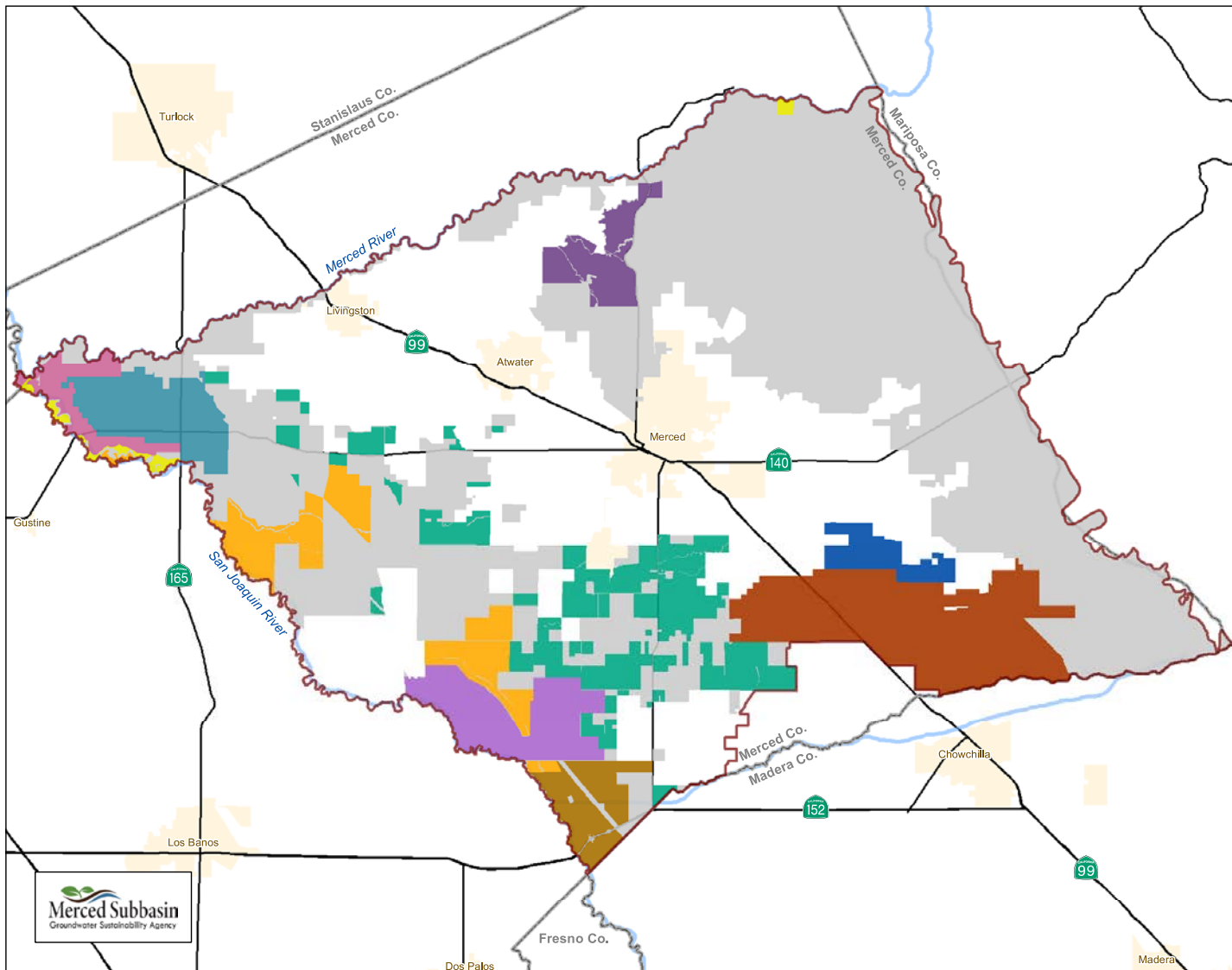


# Sample Maps

# Merced Subbasin Groundwater Sustainability Agency

Possible Sustainability Zones

Option 1 - Primarily Agency Boundaries



- River
- Highway
- City
- County
- Merced Groundwater Subbasin
- Sustainability Zones (DRAFT)**
  - Amsterdam WD
  - Clayton WD
  - Le Grand-Athlone WD
  - Lone Tree MWC
  - Merquin County WD
  - Plainsburg ID
  - Sandy Mush MWC
  - Stevenson WD
  - State Owned Lands
  - Federal Owned Lands
  - Non-Agency Lands

**DRAFT**



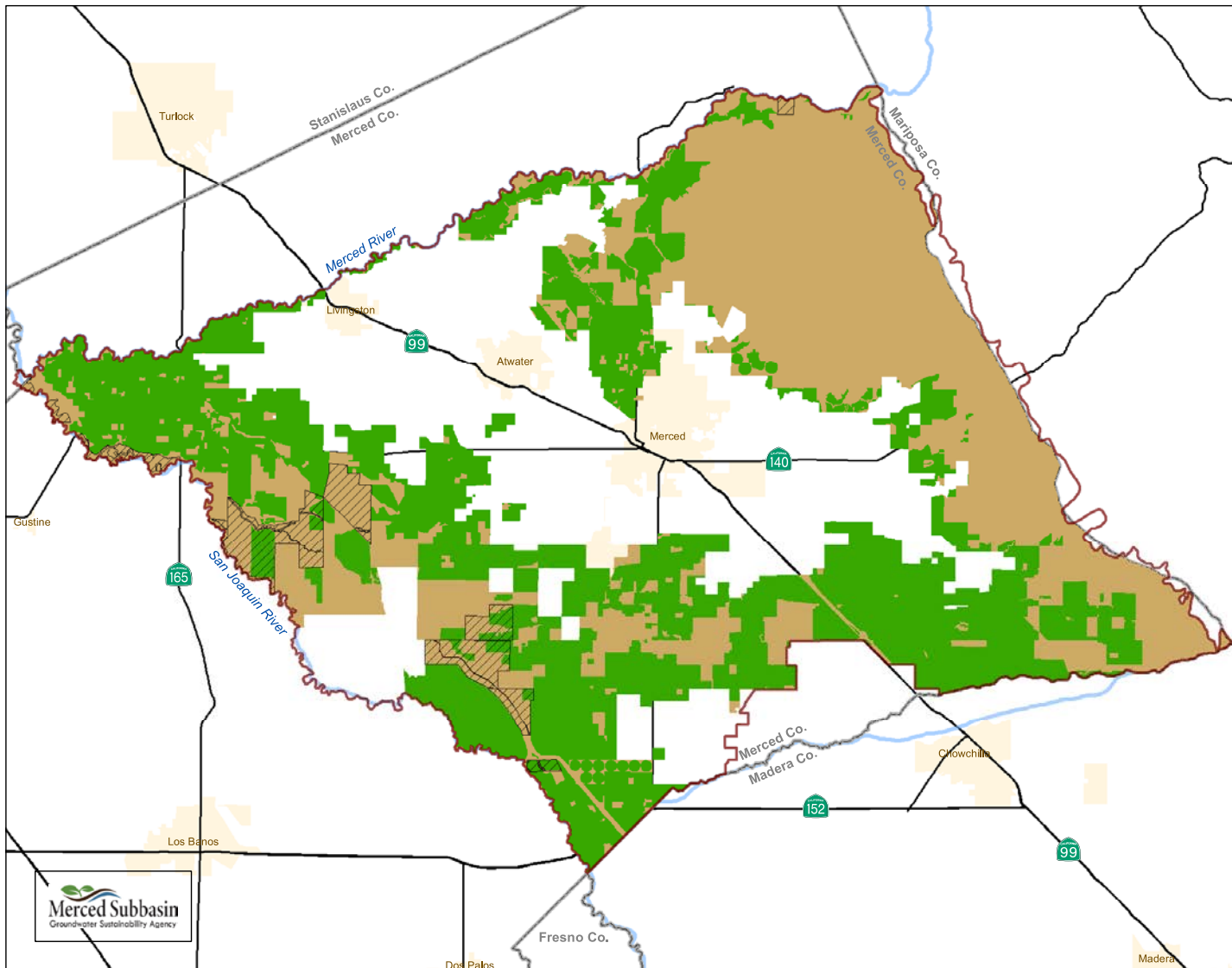
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**Merced Subbasin Groundwater Sustainability Agency**

Possible Sustainability Zones

Option 2 - Land Use Boundaries



- River
- Highway
- City
- County
- Merced Groundwater Subbasin
- Sustainability Zones (DRAFT)**
  - Cropland/Urban
  - Rangeland/Undeveloped

**DRAFT**







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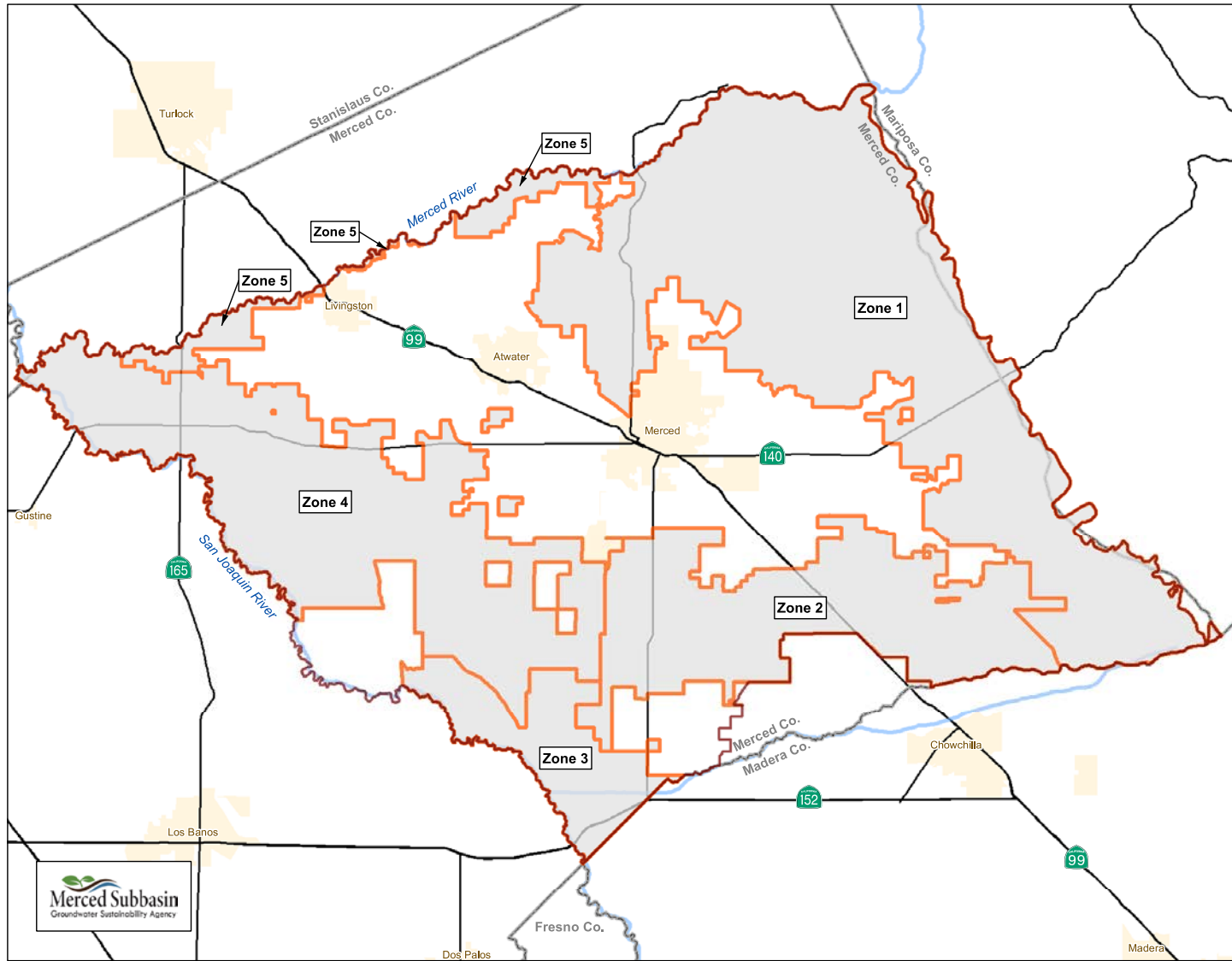
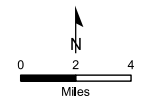


# Merced Subbasin Groundwater Sustainability Agency

Possible Sustainability Zones  
Option 3 - Hydrogeologic Boundaries

-  Sustainability Zones (DRAFT)
-  River
-  Highway
-  City
-  County
-  Merced Groundwater Subbasin

DRAFT



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# Discussion

- Are there additional attributes to consider?
- Which attributes should be weighted higher for this purpose?
- What are some likely benefits/drawbacks of creating Sustainability Zones?