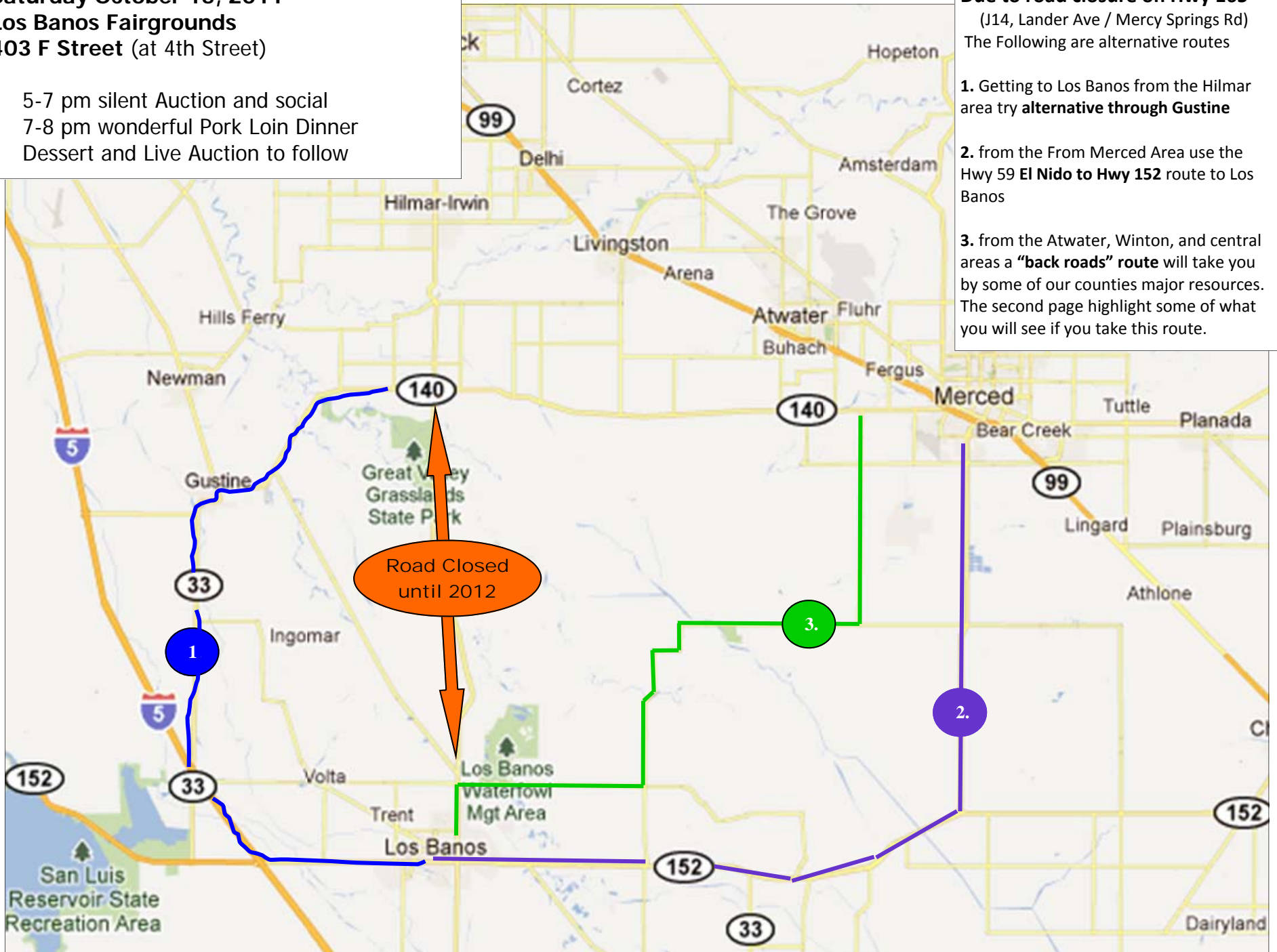


**4-H Dinner Auction**  
**Saturday October 15, 2011**  
**Los Banos Fairgrounds**  
**403 F Street (at 4th Street)**

- 5-7 pm silent Auction and social
- 7-8 pm wonderful Pork Loin Dinner
- Dessert and Live Auction to follow

**Due to road closure on Hwy 165**  
(J14, Lander Ave / Mercy Springs Rd)  
The Following are alternative routes

1. Getting to Los Banos from the Hilmar area try **alternative through Gustine**
2. from the From Merced Area use the Hwy 59 El Nido to **Hwy 152** route to Los Banos
3. from the Atwater, Winton, and central areas a **"back roads"** route will take you by some of our counties major resources. The second page highlight some of what you will see if you take this route.



## Back road travels — Merced to Los Banos

Leave early enough so that you can get part of the last daylight to capture a great glimpse of some of the bounty these county has to offer.

1. During the first week of October 2011 I traveled the back road route and saw many of the agricultural and natural resources of the county.

Starting on Gurr Road heading south from Hwy 140 there was rice harvesting in progress.

At the corner with Sandy Mush is one of the many chicken farms of the county. And across the road is new plantings of Pistachios.

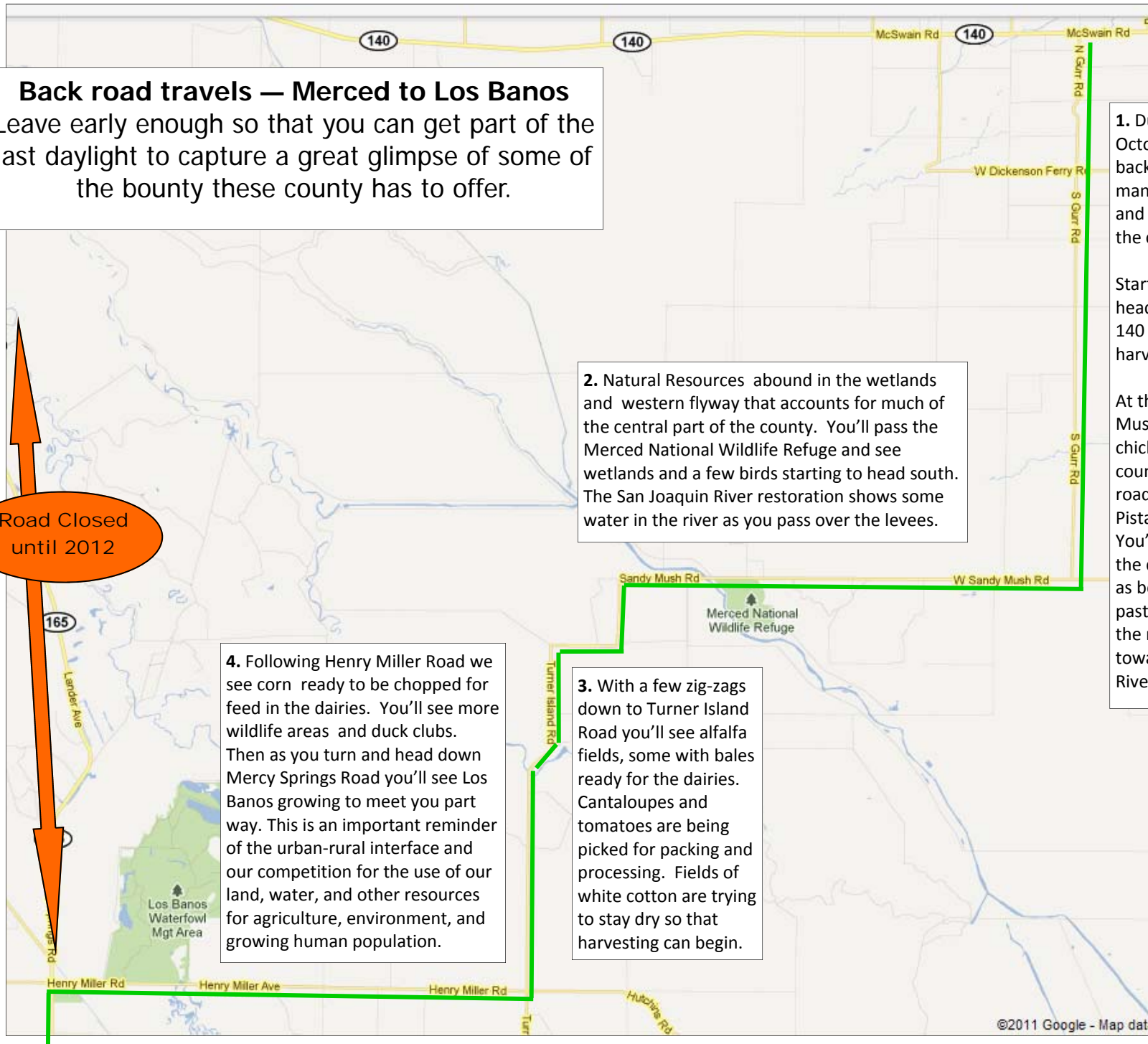
You'll see an example of the dairy industry as well as beef cattle grazing in pastures on both sides of the road as you head towards the San Joaquin River and bypass.

2. Natural Resources abound in the wetlands and western flyway that accounts for much of the central part of the county. You'll pass the Merced National Wildlife Refuge and see wetlands and a few birds starting to head south. The San Joaquin River restoration shows some water in the river as you pass over the levees.

3. With a few zig-zags down to Turner Island Road you'll see alfalfa fields, some with bales ready for the dairies. Cantaloupes and tomatoes are being picked for packing and processing. Fields of white cotton are trying to stay dry so that harvesting can begin.

4. Following Henry Miller Road we see corn ready to be chopped for feed in the dairies. You'll see more wildlife areas and duck clubs. Then as you turn and head down Mercy Springs Road you'll see Los Banos growing to meet you part way. This is an important reminder of the urban-rural interface and our competition for the use of our land, water, and other resources for agriculture, environment, and growing human population.

Road Closed until 2012





**4-H Dinner Auction - Saturday October 15, 2011**  
Los Banos Fairgrounds 403 F Street (at 4th Street)

From Hwy 152 (Pacheco Blvd) take 4th St north to F St

Parking lot available near entrance at 4th and F St. **P**

Dinner Auction is in the **O'Banion Auditorium** **A**

