

Sure, it was Redwood Gulch, but ride seemed harder than it should have been



It was going to be one of those "late" rides, delayed by the mandatory mother's day brunch thing at Grandma's (slightly-reduced crowd since my wife was visiting with Kevin, who's still at the hospital). Late rides = something different. Not the usual Pescadero Tunitas loop, but something maybe a bit "ugly." And there's not much uglier than a ride along the foothills and then climbing up to Skyline via Redwood Gulch.

This ride was 100% solo; I didn't meet up with anyone I knew along the way. Probably because nobody I know enjoys climbing Redwood Gulch! I'm sure there was a time I actually did (enjoy that climb) many, many years ago. Today, I survived the climb, but couldn't get much power the rest of the way up Highway 9 to Skyline. Adding insult to injury, Mr. Mustard was at the top!

Most-surprising were the Strava results; it really didn't feel like my fastest time heading north on Skyline between 9 & Page Mill. I guess, once up there, with the fog moving in, I shifted into no-nonsense mode and just got going.

Just for kicks, I looked up last year's same-time ride, also done solo since Kevin was out of commission at the time from his bike/car accident. Very odd how similar the ride descriptions read!

Today's ride-

Last year's solo ride, with amazingly-similar description-