

## A Bobcat, huge owl, lizards and no leg warmers!!!

Sure, it was warm this morning, but not outrageously so, 68 at the start and 78 at the warmest part of the ride, out on west-side Old LaHonda. Pretty big group this morning, with only two regulars missing (Karl, still recovering from a broken collarbone, and Eric, presumably recovering from the Everest Challenge this past weekend). Kevin, Kevin's friend Stuart (who hadn't been with us for a while), John (back from a trip to Africa I believe?), George, Millo & Jan. With the warmer weather my lungs weren't wheezing and a mid-27-minute ride up the hill wasn't too difficult. Everyone stayed together, catching up to Millo (who's started earlier) about 3/4 of the way up Kings.



Cool shadows entering the forest

Strange how we finally get summer weather now that summer's over! It reminds me how much I'll miss predictably-dry roads in the coming months. As much as we missed a real summer this year, what about the lizards and snakes? Do they end up hibernating 9 months out of the year, or do they just adapt to feeling pretty miserable when they don't get the heat they want? Let me be perfectly clear about one thing- the Tuesday/Thursday morning ride never hibernates!



Not many photos of me to be found on this site!

It was heading up west-side Old LaHonda that we saw the bobcat off in the distance, which probably explains the complete lack of rabbits this morning. Even more interesting was turning the corner over the creek (just past the part where the road is going to slide away this winter) and having a huge owl fly just over our heads and straight up the road, underneath the tree canopy.

Even on west-side Old LaHonda the group managed to stay together, despite what turned out to be a relatively-decent pace overall (16.7mph average speed from my front door & back). With the warmer temps we did keep an eye on water and made a stop at Sky Londa before heading back down the hill; that's where I allowed George to take one of those exceptionally-rare photos of me.

Yet another very nice ride with a good group of guys. We really do have to work on that "guy" thing though. Women are most certainly welcome to join us. Conversations are, at their raunchiest, PG and generally closer to Disneyland-G. Not much to be afraid of in this group.