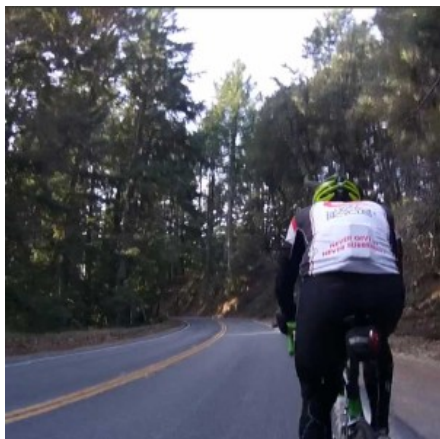


## Legs shouldn't feel this good in January (but I'll take it)



Kevin pulling us along on Skyline? Stranger things have happened. Don't ask me for an example though. It's an odd morning when I'm doing my best to hang onto Kevin Keenan's wheel climbing Kings, and there's nobody else around. I'm sure he could have cranked up the power a notch higher and dropped me at any time, but I managed to stay with or near him from the base all the way to the wide clearing at 1.4 miles to go. I confess I did come unglued from his wheel at the first steep hairpin, but I didn't totally fall apart. I'm not sure what was going on behind, because I didn't look back. Not until the wide clearing, when I noticed... there was nobody back there. Nobody. Not the other Kevin (my son), not George, not Marcus, not Eric. That concerned me a bit so I dropped off and circled around a bit, waiting for someone to show up. First, Eric, followed a minute or so later by Kevin, and just behind Kevin was George & Marcus. Very strange morning indeed!

I rode the rest of the way up Kings with Kevin at a not-too-taxing pace, and even after the regroup at the top of Kings (where we were joined by MarkP), the pace remained pretty easy. One big surprise was Kevin (my son) actually leading the way across Skyline. Normally Kevin's hiding towards the back once he's off a climb, but not today.

Obviously, the lack of rain has allowed me to get in more quality miles than usual for this time of year. Let's hope that, if we do get rain this year, it hits sooner than later. It wouldn't be any fun at all to see things really dry for the next month or two and then have a total washout in May, just when great weather (which, in this case, would mean longer and warmer days) should hit. Talk about first-world problems.