



April
25-27, Los Angeles to Yreka

Finally left home around 8:30PM, saying good-bye to the dogs. It was pretty much a clean shot out to Buttonwillow. Light traffic and reasonable temperatures. I'd ridden the loaded bike to work as a shake-down, check-out ride. I'd moved things around and changed the pack I took, and the balance was pretty good. Glad I'd changed back to the Saddleman saddle since it's lighter and gets me closer to the ground.

Crossing the Grapevine wasn't too bad since there weren't any strong winds till I got close to Gorman, and even then they weren't as bad as some other times I've been up there. I stopped at Castaic before going up and fortified myself with a McDonald's Iced Coffee.

The next day was a 520 mile ride to Yreka. It was pretty warm all the way up to Redding. Surprisingly it got hotter the farther north I went. Had to ride with my visor closed. After Redding the climate and scenery changed drastically, getting up into the mountains and cooling off. Stopped in weed to check out a brewpub, but it turned out they weren't open to the public till Thursday. Did give me a chance to pull on my Goretex Marmot parka over my mesh riding jacket.

Made up for missing the brewpub by having a half pitcher of Sierra Nevada at the Roundtable Pizza in Yreka.

Bike running fine, but mileage down due to all the winds I'd encountered. Also suffering from saddle sores.

