



Coast Range Chronicles 26: “A Tale of Two Spots”

by

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The two surf spots are located along the central coast. But they couldn't be more different. One spot, a reef, requires you to scramble down a cliff, tiptoe across a rocky shelf to a perch above the ocean, carefully read the current, and perfectly time the jump off. The swell can be two feet or twelve but, with proper timing and smart paddling, it only requires a few dozen strokes to reach the lineup dry-haired and unscathed.

The other spot is a beachbreak. There are no rocks to jump off, no channels or sneak routes, just miles of sand. No amount of deft maneuvering or waterman's head-scratching will grant you easy access to the lineup. Brainpower and book learnin' are not required here. All that's required is endurance: put your head down and paddle west through endless whitewater until you see flat horizon. It can be two feet or twelve, and you will be pummeled on the paddle out.

Both spots are excellent in their own way.