

# Sculpting Land and Life



The San Andreas fault has sculpted the California landscape. Yet the mile-wide fault zone is hard for the untrained eye to discern – until it is seen from above. Study this picture looking south down the Olema Valley. Under the veneer of towns, forests and meadows, you will discover the San Andreas, a force of change that shapes the land and life upon it.



Looking northwest towards Tomales Bay

## Shaping the Landscape

As the fault continues under Tomales Bay, its straight path is hard to mistake. Friction, grinding and movement northwest are the hands that shape the land.

Olema Valley looking south from Point Reyes Station to Bolinas Lagoon

San Andreas Fault Zone

## Life Linked to Land

While elk graze on the bluffs, salmon run in the streams, and harbor seals pup in the estuaries, the fault continues its complex work, shaping diverse habitats.



Tule elk, coho salmon and harbor seals