

Golden Gate Birder Blog Guidelines

The [Golden Gate Bird Alliance Blog](#) is an online blog featuring thoughtful articles on everything from birding hotspots to bird science written by members of our community; including Golden Gate Bird Alliance board members and staff. In order to keep this blog as engaging and relevant as possible we welcome all interested contributors to pitch their article idea(s) (1-2 sentences on the topic) to our communications desk at communications@goldengatebirds.org. We are especially interested in publishing blog posts from folks within underrepresented communities including; Black, Indigenous, and other People of Color, LGBTQIA+ individuals and folks with disabilities. Below is a general guideline for contributing blog posts and the editing process.

Content

We recommend that you visit our blog page [here](#) to get a sense of the kinds of blog posts we've published in the past. Please don't submit general trip reviews or bird profiles.

Length

Blog articles are typically anywhere from 800-1200 words long depending on the particular topic. While there is no word minimum please do not submit anything over 2,500 words.

Format

Contributors can send their article as a shared Google Document or as a Word Document to rnakano@goldengatebirds.org. Any accompanying photos for the article can be sent as attached jpg/png files preferably 300 resolution or lower. In addition to the article and photos please include a title for the piece as well as a 1-2 sentence author biography for us to use in the blog post.

Editing Process

Before sending your first draft of your article, decide which format you feel the most comfortable editing in (Google Docs or Word Doc).

If you choose to send your article as a Google Doc, the communications editor will edit directly from that google doc ([make sure they are shared as an editor](#)). Because this is a blog article, the communications editor will primarily copy edit to ensure grammar, style and general flow of each article. However, in order to make this editing process as collaborative as possible, the editor will make edits in "suggestion mode" which will turn edits into comments for you to address by approving, denying or commenting on.

If you choose to send your article as a Word Document, the communications editor will download it and make edits using the "Track Changes" feature in MS Word before saving it and sending it back to you for review and additional edits.