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- Main page
- Contents
- Featured Content
- Current Events
- Random article
- Donate to Wikipedia

Interaction

- Help
- About Wikpedia
- Community portal Recent changes
- Contact Wikipedia

Toolbox

- What links here
- Related changes
- Upload file
- Special pages
- Permanent link Cite this page
- Share your feeback

article discussion

edit view history read

search

my watch list

log out

Golden-crowned Sparrow

The Golden-crowned Sparrow, Zonotrichia atricapilla, is a medium-sized sparrow. It is slightly larger than the closely related White-crowned Sparrow.

Contents hide 1 Description 2 Distribution and habitat 3 Breeding 4 Subspecies 5 Behavior 6 History 7 References 8 Further reading 8.1 Book

8.2 Thesis

Description

Adults are 18 cm (7 in) long. In the breeding season, it has a distinct gold patch on its head, flanked by two dark black stripes. When not breeding, its plumage is more variable, ranging from a small, dull gold patch and no black, to near-breeding season plumage.

Distribution and habitat

The breeding habitat is across the north part of western Canada and the U.S. state of Alaska. In the winter the Golden-crowned Sparrow migrates to Vancouver Island in Canada and the West Coast of the United States.

Behavior

The song is a three-note whistle, descending in pitch. It is very distinctive, and often described as "ohdear-me". However, birds in the mountains of British Columbia have been reported to have trill on the third note, rather than a clear whistle as in other populations. These songs are heard mainly in the





Scientific classification Kingdom:Animalia Phylum: Chordata Class: Aves

Passeriformes Order: Emberizidae Family: Genus: Zonotrichia

Species: Z. atricapilla Binomial name

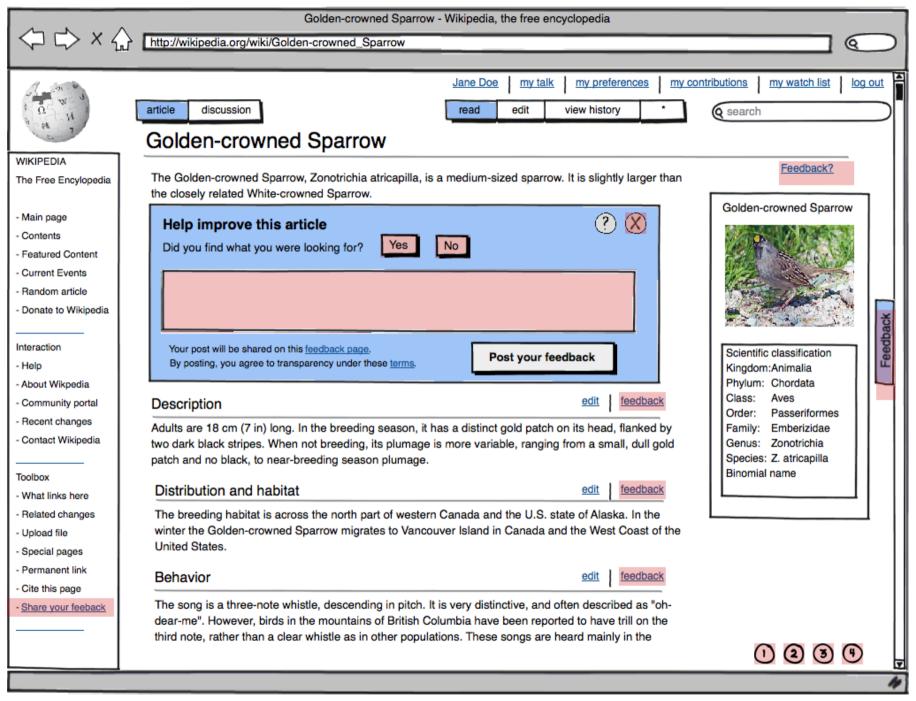
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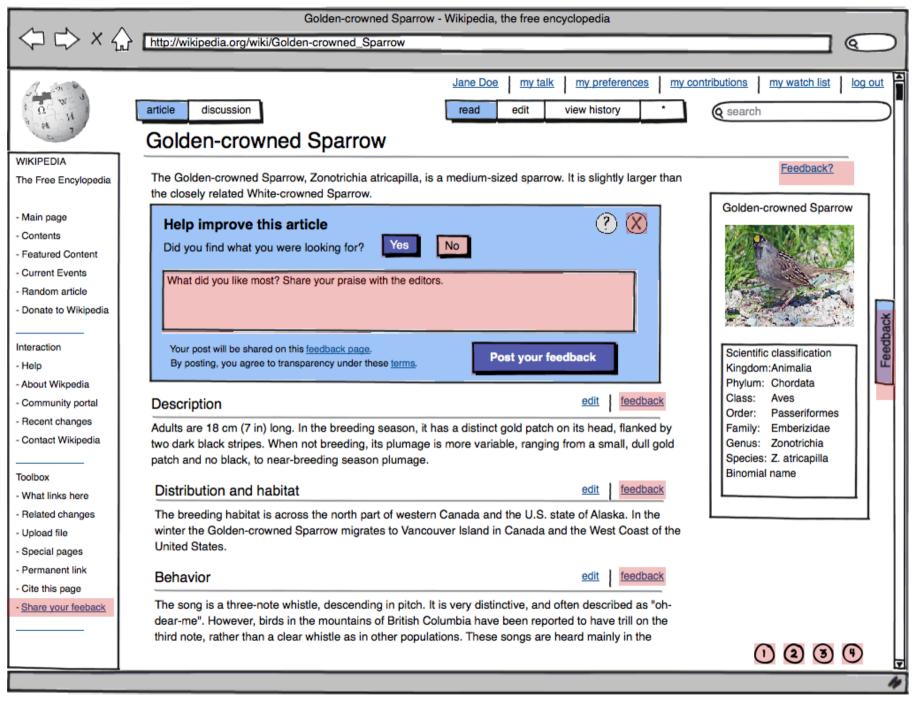


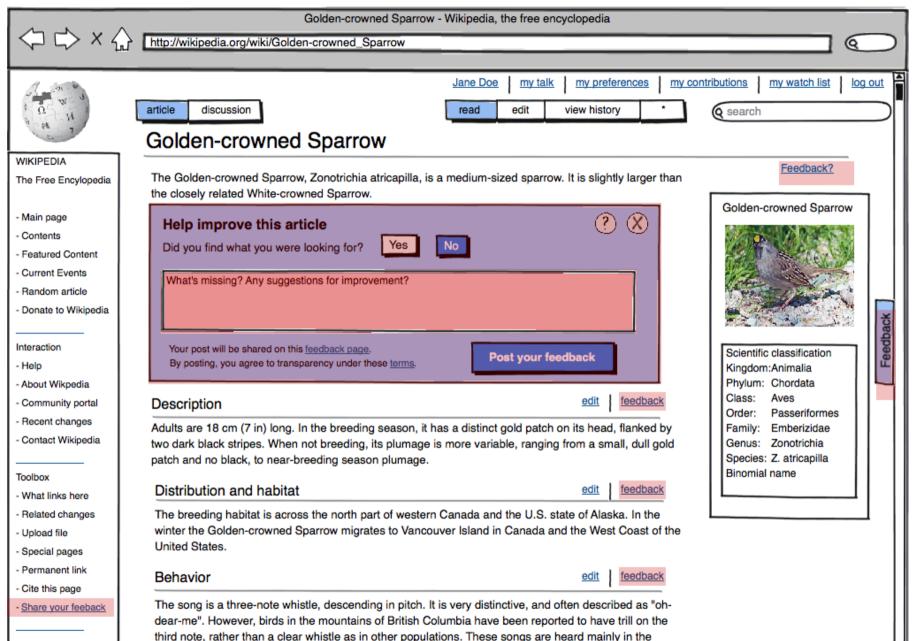










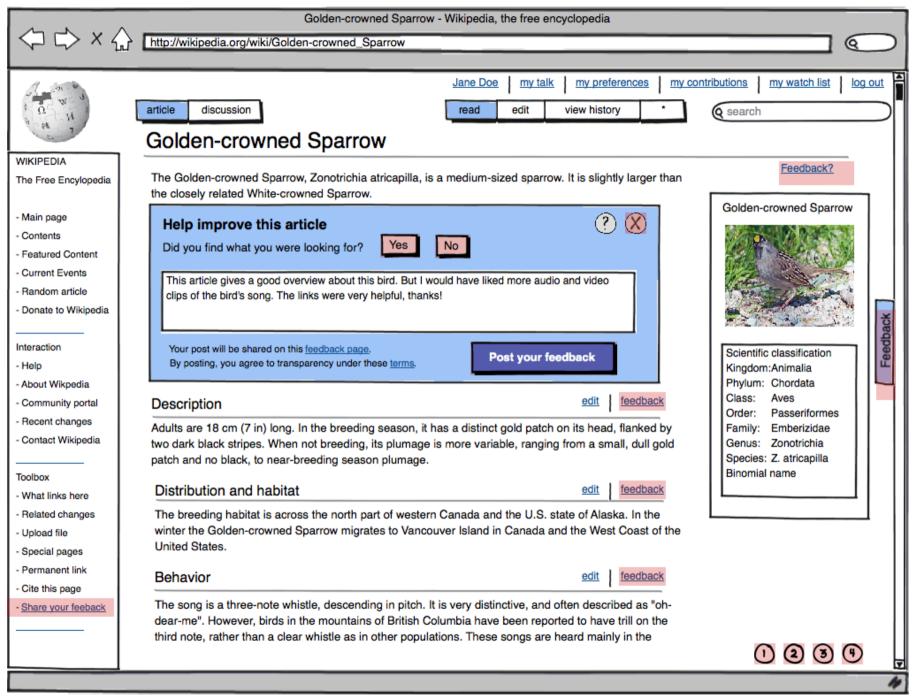
















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Distribution and habitat

Contents Featured Content

Interaction

Help

Toolbox

Current Events Random article

About Wikpedia

Community portal

Recent changes

What links here Related changes

Upload file

Special pages Permanent link

Cite this page

Share your feeback

Contact Wikipedia

Donate to Wikipedia

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