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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.

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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





Kingdom:Animalia Phylum: Chordata Class: Aves

Scientific classification

Passeriformes Order: Emberizidae Family: Genus: Zonotrichia Species: Z. atricapilla

Binomial name

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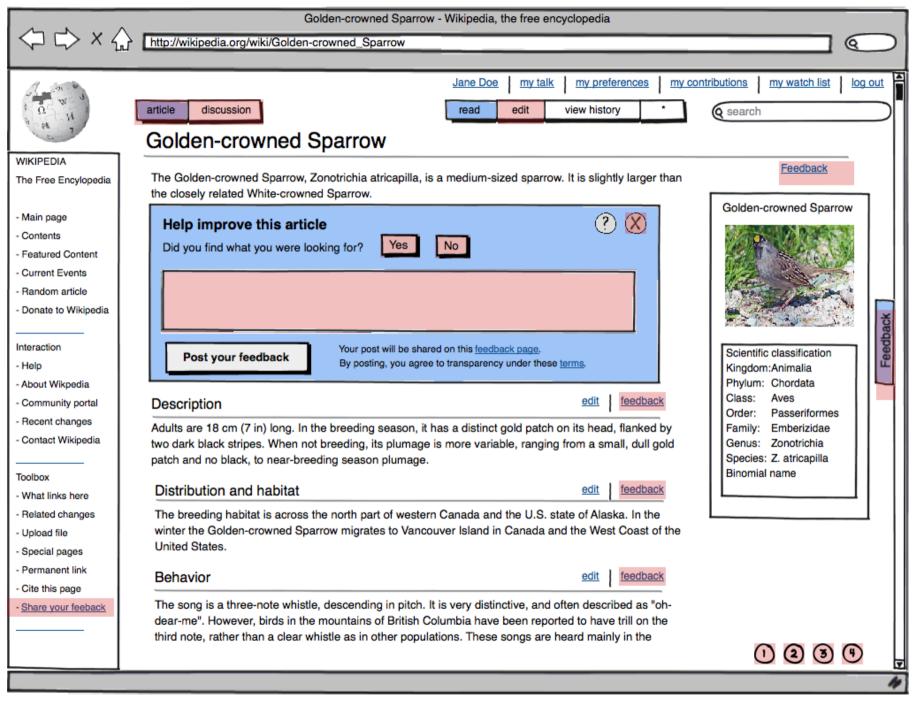


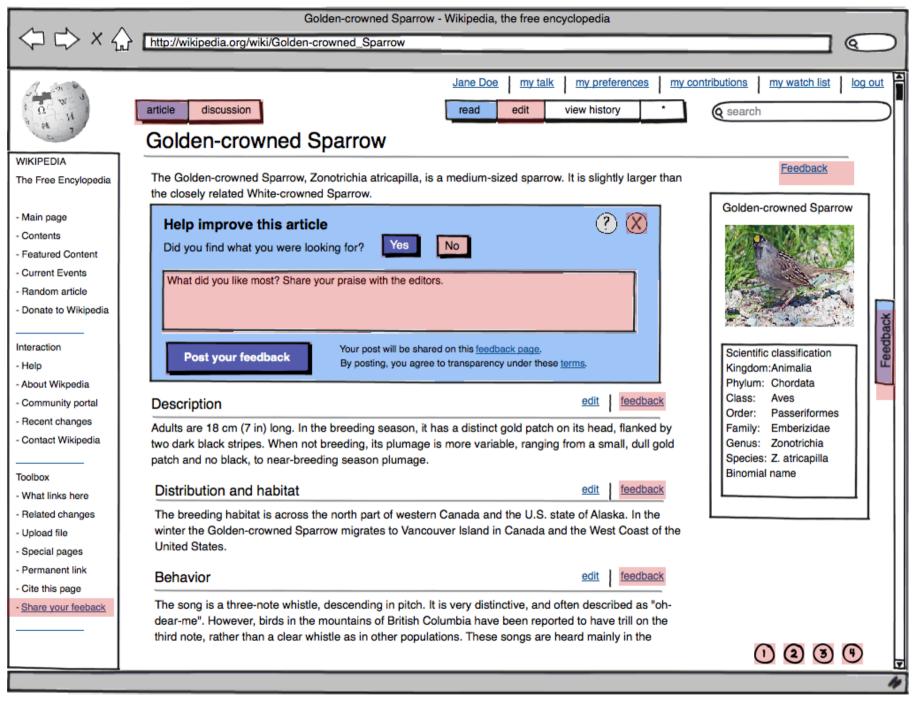
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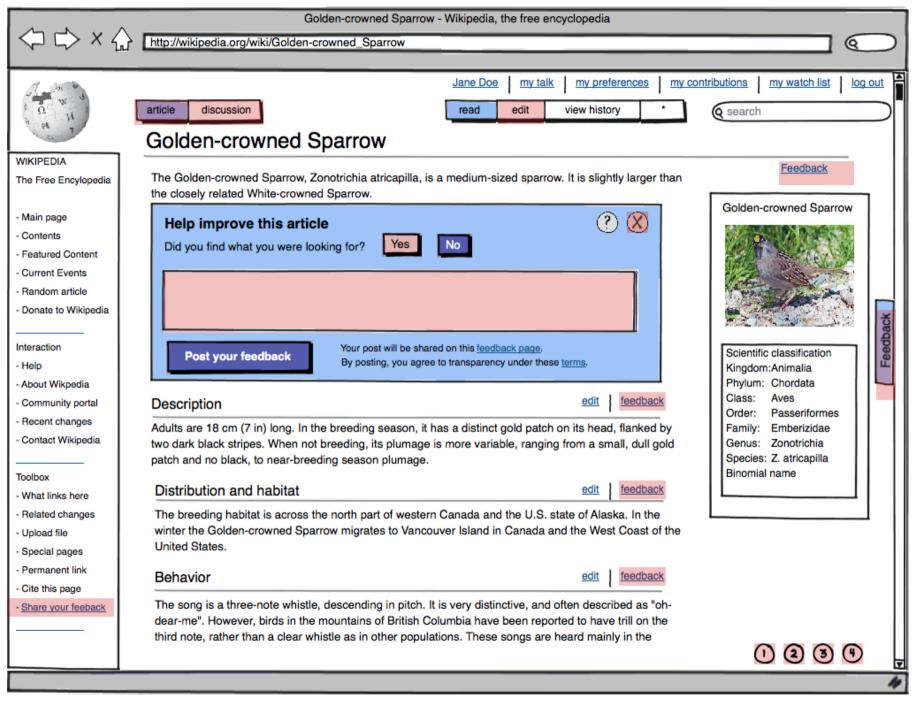
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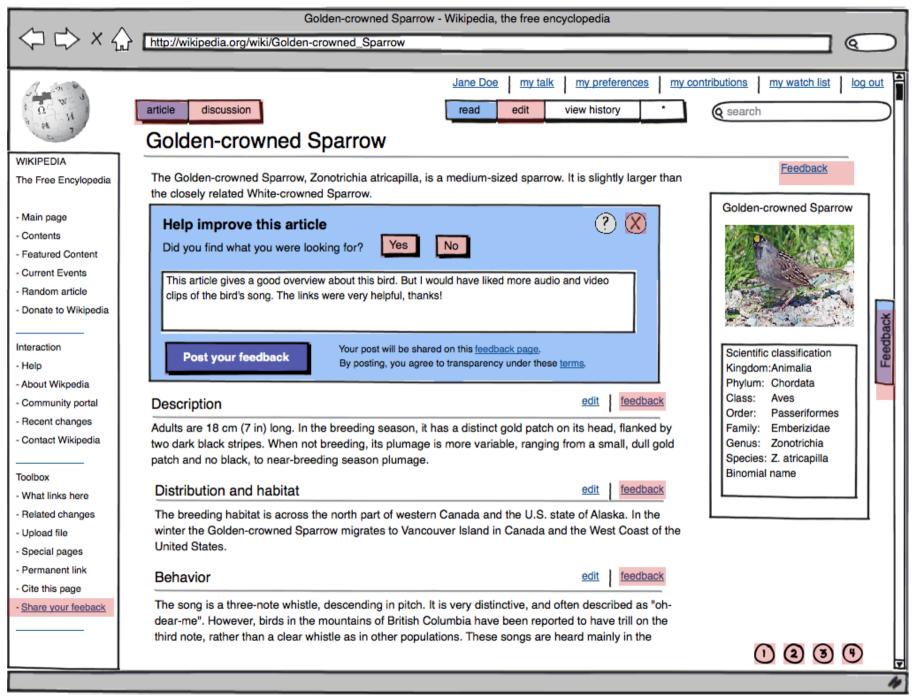
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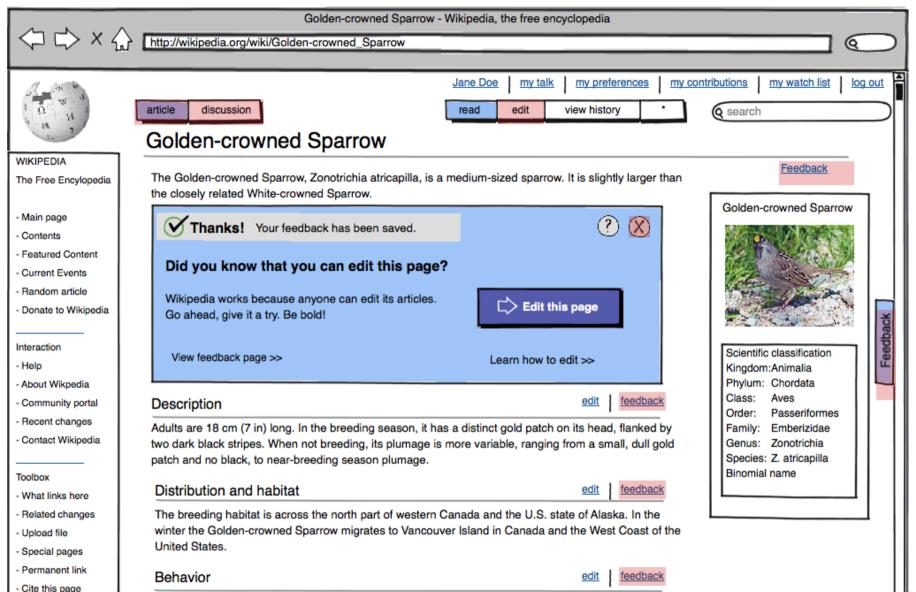
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