

## BREEDING BIRD ATLAS

I have listed below (in no particular order after item #1) my major concerns about "editing" the BBA. If, after discussion of these--and other points that will inevitably arise--you want me to take on the project, it would be best for all concerned to have a written statement describing my role and responsibilities. I consider this an opportunity to contribute to this worthwhile project by making available my writing/editing experience along with my knowledge of birds and birding. Under conditions that are "right" for all concerned I would look forward to the challenge and would do the best job that I can do. All this depends, of course, on the good will, cooperation, and understanding of all those involved.

### 1. Authority.

How much authority would I have? Authority to request contributors to re-write their account(s), to re-write passages? How much authority do I have to re-write passages myself (informing the author, of course)? Is there an "authorial template" which has been agreed upon and observed? How much leeway do the individual authors have to deviate from this template? What is my authority to require adherence to the template? Are there standards of cited references (or un-cited references) which are expected of all contributors? May one impose this standard? While I realize everyone has his own style, what is my responsibility/authority to require a modicum of consistency here? What authority would I have to establish "deadlines" for return of re-writes, etc.? Will the editor be expected to observe "gender-free" style or any other "politically correct" language? Perhaps these questions will suffice to establish my point about who is responsible for what--who is responsible to whom. There are, of course, other concerns here, but I

think you get the idea of problems inherent in such an endeavor of this sort.

2. Handling and Processing of Texts.

I have no computer/word processor skills! My comments, requests, suggestions, etc. will be handwritten and/or typed. How will the accounts circulate from writer to me--to writer (if changes are to be made)--back to me, etc. Who will have the ultimate responsibility for final draft which is to go---where?---to the word processor at DNR? Who receives the "galleys" from word processor?--and who goes over the true galleys from the publisher? Who is the liaison between us and the publisher? Who has the authority to conduct final textual business with press?

3. Footnotes (you call them "references"), bibliography, index.

Who, what, how--and all that jazz?

4. Time Constraints.

If you want me to do this work and if we all agree about how it is to be done, I will work steadily on the project until completion. I know from sad experience that once a manuscript leaves the writer's hands, that writer suddenly becomes extremely conscious and strict about "deadlines"--an awareness and sensitivity not heretofore demonstrated! I have been subject to this type of thinking(?) for over 40 years and do not intend, in my retirement, to be again so afflicted. All I can say is that--barring health problems or unforeseen circumstances--I will work regularly and at my own pace. I do have other projects underway in which I am involved and to which I am committed. This project will receive commensurate time and concern and will be attended with constancy.

J. Sandrock

Our accounts still seem to be very different from one another. Although some latitude in writing style and content is probably necessary, I think we need to tighten up the contents by specifying what info should be included, wher from?, what subtitles to use, and how to organize.

To aid us in this task, I have included a hypothetical outline for the text using only the subtitles we had previously agreed on. Under each category, I have tried to include all of the types of information that we have put in our individual species accounts. I have underlined other subtitles which have been used.

What should we keep, not keep?

How should it be organized?

What about other sub-titles?

Where should the info come from?

How extensive should our referencing be?