



Magazine Submission Guidelines

California Waterfowl Magazine is published four times a year as a benefit for members of California Waterfowl, a nonprofit organization dedicated to the conservation and enhancement of waterfowl, wetlands, and California’s hunting heritage. *California Waterfowl Magazine* is looking for articles that fit within and support this mission.

Deadlines

California Waterfowl Magazine works three months ahead of each issue. The current deadlines are as follows:

Article Deadline	Issue/Release Date
November 15 th	Spring – February 25 th
February 15 th	Summer – May 25 th
May 15 th	Fall – August 25 th
August 15 th	Winter – November 25 th

Article Topics

This list should give writers an idea of what types of articles have been published in the past. This list is not conclusive, and new article topics that fit within California Waterfowl’s mission are always welcome. All articles should reflect California Waterfowl’s mission to conserve and enhance waterfowl, wetlands, and the hunting heritage.

Conservation	Waterfowl Hunting	Wetland Projects
Outdoor Education	Women and the Outdoors	Hunting Opportunities
How-to _____	Youth and the Outdoors	Special Hunt Experiences
Hunter Health	Hunting Dogs	Habitat Management
Hunting Heritage	Experiences at CWA Event	About your CWA chapter/club
Volunteers	Stories from the blind	Opening of new public lands
Cuisine		

Guidelines for hunting articles and stories: Please consider the magazine’s whole audience. Emphasize the challenges and rewards of the hunt rather than numbers killed. The magazine aims to build bridges between hunters and non-hunters through shared interests such as wildlife conservation. If game harvest must be discussed due to the nature of the story/article, please be tasteful. Try to avoid emphasis on body count. For example:

No: At the end of our hunt we had 21 dead ducks piled on the tailgate.

Yes: We each took our limit of ducks that hunt.

Please know that California Waterfowl Magazine cannot print stories that involve illegal hunting, and photos cannot display more than the legal limit of birds per person in the picture.

Format & Length

Articles should be submitted electronically via email to the editor in Microsoft Word. Refer to the Associated Press style manual for punctuation and capitalization. Avoid or explain jargon and scientific terms that are not widely known. Most articles* should be 500 – 1,000 words in length. Shorter stories will still be considered. Longer articles may be edited for length or broken into segments that run in consecutive issues. Suggestions for sidebars and/or complementing photos may be included with articles. At the end of an article, please provide a brief profile about the author (2 sentences max) that usually includes the author's name, position, specialties, and/or interest in the topic.

*Submissions to the Member Tips department should be approximately 100 words or less.

Revisions

California Waterfowl Magazine reserves the right to make (minor) edits for length, spelling, grammar, and accuracy. Any major changes needed for an article will be given back to the author to make the necessary adjustments. Please expect at least one revision for your article submission and possibly more depending on the strength of your writing.

Queries

Feel free to contact the editor with article ideas before you start writing or at any point in the submission process. Conversation with the editor beforehand may help focus the article and save you revision time later. The editor can also provide information on upcoming magazine themes and features that might have need for article submissions. However, a query is not necessary to submit an article for consideration.

Photos

Electronic versions of photos are always preferred. The following formats are acceptable: .jpeg, .pdf, and .tiff. 300 DPI is suggested. Our email system can accept up to 10 megabyte files. Please include information about photo credit, names of those pictured, and a possible caption for each photo. Names are more important for photos being submitted to the scrapbook section of the magazine. Please include your contact information with your photo submission so we can reach you if more information is needed. Candid or "in-action" shots are always preferred to "trophy" shots. If you would like to submit an article and don't have an accompanying photo, that is fine.

Hard copies of photos can also be accepted. Please provide us with an actual photograph, not a version printed off the computer. This will allow us to get a better resolution photo for printing. Although California Waterfowl will make every effort to return the photo in its received condition, the association will not be responsible for lost or damaged prints.

Photo submissions are accepted for our Scrapbook department, Member Photo section, front cover, and to accompany articles. Photos to add to stock may also be submitted. Please contact the photo editor for current photographic needs.

Please note that *California Waterfowl Magazine* cannot publish any photos that:

- Display more than the legal limit of game per person.
- Display overt kill (i.e. piles of dead birds, or game lined up on a bumper).
- Involved illegal means to obtain the photo (i.e. trespassing).

Permission

We will assume that any people pictured in your photos or mentioned in your article have already given you permission to appear or be named in *California Waterfowl Magazine*. Please handle any permission issues before submitting your photos and articles.

Payment

Contributions to *California Waterfowl Magazine* are made on a voluntary basis. Because California Waterfowl is a nonprofit organization, we cannot pay contributors for their work.

Disclaimer

By submitting your article, photo, or artwork to *California Waterfowl Magazine*, you acknowledge that California Waterfowl has the right to publish the submission both in print and on the web. All contributors will be acknowledged as such where their work appears. By submitting a work, you are affirming that the work is original work and does not contain any part which violates the intellectual property rights of others (i.e. copyright, trademark, etc.). Submitting your work in no way implies a financial obligation to you on the part of California Waterfowl. Articles or photos that appear in *California Waterfowl Magazine* are welcomed to be published by the author elsewhere. California Waterfowl will exercise care in the handling of all materials received but will not be held responsible for loss or damage.

California Waterfowl has the sole authority to decide which stories will be used in the magazine. Not all articles and photographs submitted will be used, or used immediately. Some items are placed on hold for later issues or placed on file for future use. Some items may be respectfully declined.

Contact

Courtney Ashe
Associate Editor
cashe@calwaterfowl.org
916-648-1406 x127
4630 Northgate Blvd., Suite 150
Sacramento, CA 95834

Erik Bergren
Photo Editor
ebergren@calwaterfowl.org