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Core Competencies

Michelle Baker, PhD, the [Conservation Writing Pro](http://ConservationWritingPro.com), provides technical editing services to help environmental scientists communicate their regulatory positions with greater clarity. She is the author of [Writing in the Environmental Sciences: A Seven-Step Guide](#) (Cambridge UP, 2017).

- PhD in English Language & Literature from the Catholic University of America, Washington, DC, including coursework in rhetoric, argument style & structure, voice, and composition pedagogy
- 10+ years college teaching experience
- 15+ federal writing training experience
- Guidance development for Species Status Assessment (SSA) Reports and Habitat Conservation Plans (HCPs)
- Review and teaching experience of style manuals including Council of Science Editors, Government Publications Office, and plain language

Past Performance

- **Western Pacific Regional Fishery Management Council.**** 2020. *History of Billfish Management under the Western Pacific Regional Fishery Management Council*. Monograph Series. Edited for coherence and clarity. Sylvia Spalding, sylvia.spalding@wpcouncil.org
- **WILD Foundation.**** 2016. *The State of Conservation in North America*. Report drafted by Canadian, Mexican, and American environmental regulatory agencies. Edited for consistency and clarity. Contact: Adam Hanson, adamlhanson@gmail.com
- **American Journal Experts.** Feb 2016 to present.** Editor of 1200+ scientific journal articles primarily in the areas of environmental studies, ecology, management, and educational theory. contact@aje.com
- **USFWS. 2017. Species Status Assessment Report for the Tinian Monarch.** (Monarcha takatsukasae). Early stage editing to improve organization, ensure compliance with the requirements of a new document type, and streamline the narrative. Heather Bell, heather_bell@fws.gov
- **DOI. National Conservation Training Center.** 2011. Slide Deck, Compatibility Determinations. PPT training designed by 50 SMEs. Edited for consistency. Shayna Carney, Shayna_carney@fws.gov
- ———. 2010. *Critical Writing and Critical Thinking Course Notebook*. Edited course modules for consistency. Created glossary. Linda Lufkin, linda_lufkin@fws.gov

**indicates commercial experience

Differentiators

- PhD in English Language and Literature
- Teaching experience in telling your story, argument logic, document structure and giving feedback
- Deep regulatory knowledge with, i.e., ESA, Magnuson–Stevens Act, MBTA, NEPA, etc.
- Experience teaching and reviewing/developing guidance for agency document types, i.e.:

Annual Reports	Environmental Impact Statements	Policy and Guidance
Best Management Practices	Federal Register Notices	Recovery Plans
Briefing Papers	Grant Proposals	Section 7 Consultation Documents
Biological Opinions	Habitat Conservation Plans	SSA Reports
Compatibility Determinations	Law Enforcement Reports	Technical Reports
Environmental Assessments	NEPA Documents	White Papers