

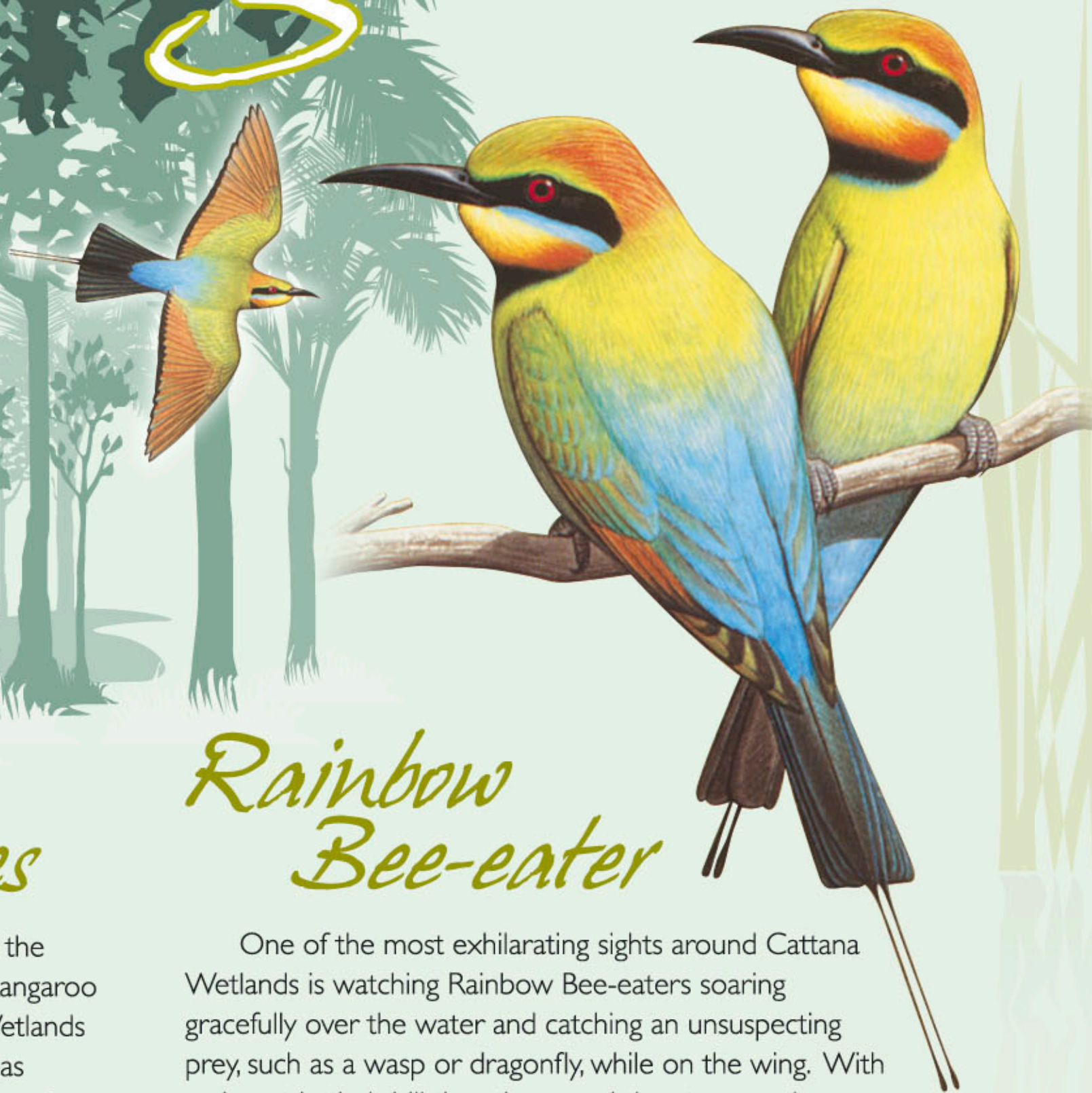
Life on the Edge



Wallabies

Agile Wallabies are the most common type of kangaroo in tropical coastal Australia. At Cattana Wetlands they shelter in groups within forested areas around the wetland. During the cooler part of the day, especially dusk and dawn, they come out into open areas next to the wetland to graze on a wide variety of plants.

These mid-size wallabies breed year round with a single young remaining in the pouch for about 30 weeks. Young wallabies are fully independent within a year.



Rainbow Bee-eater

One of the most exhilarating sights around Cattana Wetlands is watching Rainbow Bee-eaters soaring gracefully over the water and catching an unsuspecting prey, such as a wasp or dragonfly, while on the wing. With an insect in their bill they then perch in a tree on the edge of the wetlands and devour the tasty meal. They also call, a repeated rolling 'pirr, pirr, pik', while flying and often congregate in large numbers.

While both sexes are brightly coloured blue and green with a pointed, curved bill, only males have a distinctive tail shaft. They can be seen at Cattana Wetlands all year round.

Frogs

Frogs love wetlands and the wetlands at Cattana are no exception. Two small green frogs, the Eastern and Northern Dwarf Treefrog, live in the sedges that grow in and adjacent to water. During the warmer months these frogs call from elevated positions, usually the stems of the sedges. Their calls are very similar - a complex high pitched 'wree-e-eck pippip'.

Several frogs are also common on the water's edge during the warmer months. During hot, dry periods they come down to the water to get moisture that is vital to their survival. However, after heavy wet season rains, many species of frogs breed amongst vegetation on shallow edges of the wetlands.

Dainty Green Treefrog



Northern Dwarf Treefrog



Striped Rocket Frog