



Reservoirs FOR NATURE.

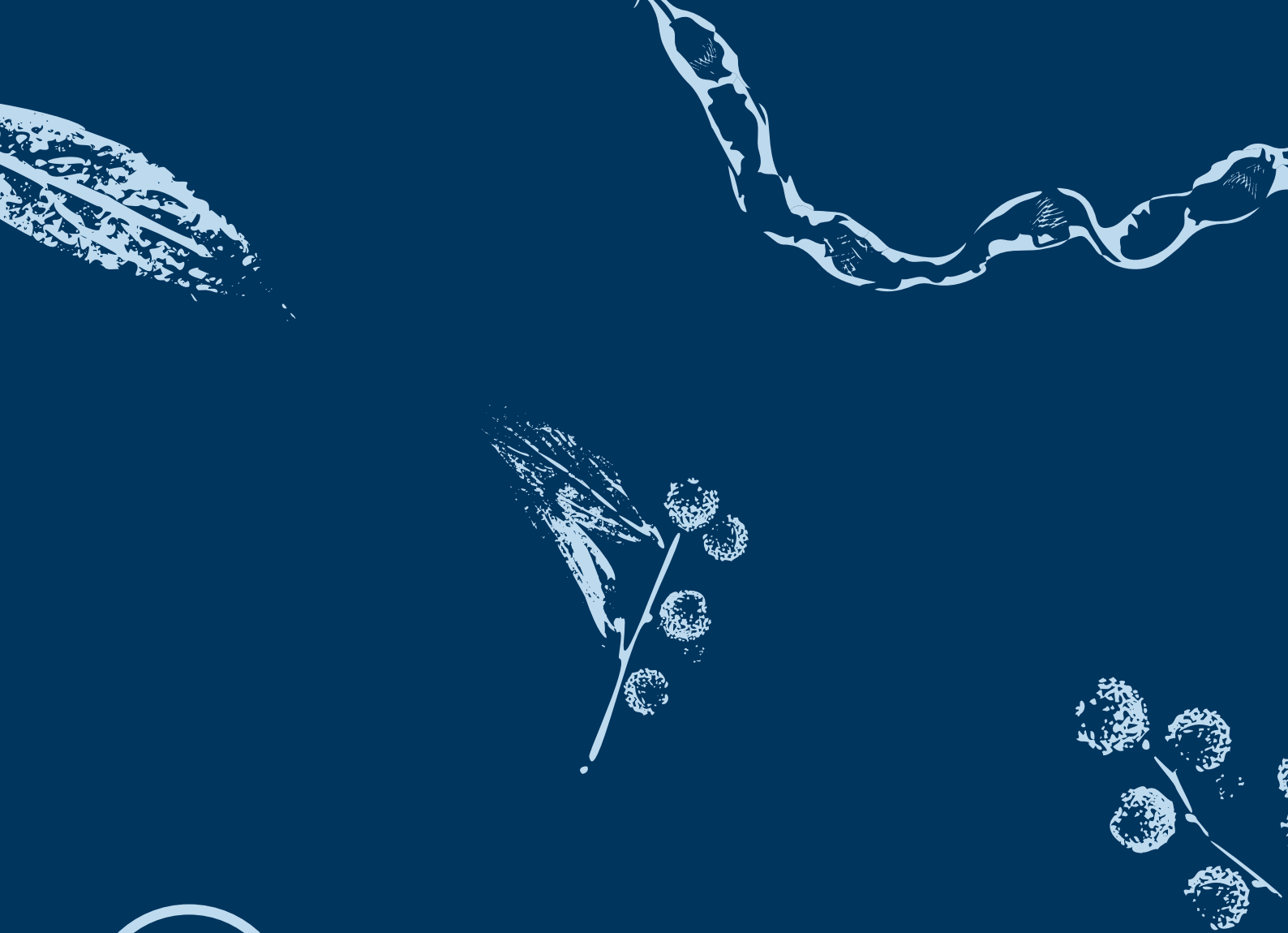
Birds of Myponga Reservoir Reserve

Reservoirs for Nature connects people with nature while restoring habitats, enhancing biodiversity and offsetting carbon emissions.



Together with





We acknowledge the Traditional Owners of Country throughout South Australia. We recognise their unique and continuing connection to lands and waters. We pay respect to Elders past and present and extend that respect to all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples visiting or living in South Australia.

All illustrations in this booklet were created by Jason Tyndall, Nature Play SA

Birdwatching

Birdwatching is about paying attention. It helps us notice the small things that are often overlooked, the morning chorus of birdsong, a flash of colour through the trees, or a bird collecting twigs to build a nest.

Whether perched quietly in an old tree, feeding in open grasslands, singing from a treetop or flying across your path, every bird has something to teach us about the place it calls home. The more we watch and listen, the more we begin to notice.

The best time for birdwatching is usually in the morning, when birds are most active. Wander quietly along designated paths, take your time, and listen carefully. By treading lightly, we help protect the habitats that birds depend on for food, shelter and raising their young.

Wrens, thornbills and other small birds

Supberb Fairy-wren

(*Malurus cyaneus*)

Males are bright blue, females are brown.



White-browed Scrubwren

(*Sericornis frontalis*)

Shy bird with distinctive white eyebrow.



Striated Thornbill

(*Acanthiza lineata*)

Seen mostly high in canopies.



Brown Thornbill

(*Acanthiza pusilla*)

Seen mostly in low shrubs.



Striated Pardalote

(*Pardalotus striatus*)

Has white streaks on its head and a distinctive red spot on its wings.



Spotted Pardalote

(*Pardalotus punctatus*)

Has white spots on its head and wings. Males have a bright yellow throat and red rump.



White-throated Treecreeper

(*Cormobates leucophaea*)

Creeps up tree trunks looking for insects. Females have an orange cheek patch.



Golden-headed Cisticola

(*Cisticola exilis*)

Males have a brighter golden head during the breeding season.



Silvereye

(*Zosterops lateralis*)

Distinct white ring around the eye.



Did you know?

Some cuckoos lay their eggs in the nests of small birds, including fairy-wrens. If the egg is not noticed, the cuckoo chick may be raised by the other bird.

Parrots and Cockatoos

Adelaide Rosella

(*Platycercus elegans*)

Has a blue cheek patch.



Eastern Rosella

(*Platycercus eximius*)

Has a white cheek patch.



Elegant Parrot

(*Neophema elegans*)

Rare, SA

Has a distinctive blue line on its forehead.
Males are brighter than females.



Rainbow Lorikeet

(*Trichoglossus moluccanus*)

Brightly coloured, loud and often seen in fast-moving groups.



Musk Lorikeet

(*Glossopsitta concinna*)

Green body with a red patch across the forehead and around the eye.



Galah

(*Eolophus roseicapilla*)

Females have pink-red eyes; males have dark brown eyes.



Yellow-tailed Black Cockatoo

(*Zanda funerea*)

Vulnerable, SA

Females have a larger, brighter yellow cheek patch, a pale bill, a grey eye-ring and more black in the yellow tail panels.



Little Corella

(*Cacatua sanguinea*)

Smaller than a Long-billed Corella, with a shorter bill and no orange-red band across the face and chest.



Sulphur-crested Cockatoo

(*Cacatua galerita*)

Relies on old tree hollows for breeding.



Did you know?

Many parrots and cockatoos nest in tree hollows. Hollows form slowly in older trees and can take decades or even centuries to develop.

Honeyeaters

New Holland Honeyeater

(*Phylidonyris novaehollandiae*)

Often seen in noisy groups, especially around flowering trees and shrubs.



Crescent Honeyeater

(*Phylidonyris pyrrhopterus*)

Females are duller in colour than males.



Yellow-faced Honeyeater

(*Caligavis chrysops*)

Distinctive yellow eye patch.



White-naped Honeyeater

(*Melithreptus lunatus*)

Has a distinctive white band across the back of its neck (nape).



Red Wattlebird

(*Phylidonyris pyrrhopterus*)

Yellow belly with a red flap of skin on the side of its neck, called a wattle.



Noisy Miner

(*Manorina melanocephala*)

Lives in open woodlands and often gathers in noisy groups.



Little Wattlebird

(*Anthochaera chrysoptera*)

Unlike the Red Wattlebird, it has no wattle and no yellow belly.



Eastern Spinebill

(*Acanthorhynchus tenuirostris*)

Females have less distinct markings than males.



White-plumed Honeyeater

(*Ptilotula penicillata*)

Plumes under cheek are white.



Did you know?

Honeyeaters are an important group of pollinators. As they move between flowers looking for nectar, they can carry pollen from one plant to another.

Noisy Miners are native Australian birds. They do particularly well where trees are surrounded by open ground and can become very common in these areas. Their numbers can affect smaller native birds that share the same habitat. Initiatives such as Reservoirs for Nature are restoring native vegetation and understory habitat, creating more places for smaller birds to feed, shelter and nest.

Larger Woodland Birds

Laughing Kookaburra

(*Dacelo novaeguineae*)

Nests in tree hollows, where the young are raised.



Magpie-lark

(*Grallina cyanoleuca*)

Males have a black throat and white eyebrow; females have a white throat and different white facial markings.



Australian Magpie

(*Gymnorhina tibicen*)

Males have a white back; females have grey markings on the back.



Grey Currawong

(*Strepera versicolor*)

Large dark grey bird with a white tail and yellow eye.



Little Raven

(*Corvus mellori*)

Often mistaken for a crow, but it is a raven.



Birds of Prey

Black-shouldered Kite

(*Elanus axillaris*)

White bird with a black shoulder. Often hovers above the ground looking for prey, then drops down to catch it.



Whistling Kite

(*Haliastur sphenurus*)

Often circles high overhead, calling with a distinctive whistle. Look for pale “windows” in its wings.



Nankeen Kestrel

(*Falco cenchroides*)

When flying, look for the dark bar across its tail. It often hovers above the ground looking for prey, then drops down to catch it.



Wedge-tailed Eagle

(*Aquila audax*)

One of Australia's largest birds of prey, with a wingspan of about 2.3 metres.



Australian Boobook Owl

(*Ninox boobook*)

A small, nocturnal owl, about 30 cm long. During the day it roosts in dense foliage.



Did you know?

Other birds of prey recorded at Myponga Reservoir include Brown Falcon, Australian Hobby, Little Eagle, Collared Sparrowhawk and Brown Goshawk.

Songbirds

Grey Shrikethrush

(*Colluricincla harmonica*)

Often heard before it is seen. Has a rich, varied song.



Golden Whistler

(*Pachycephala pectoralis*)

Males are bright yellow, black and olive-green; females are grey-brown and much duller.



White-browed Babbler

(*Pomatostomus superciliosus*)

Lives in noisy groups and has a distinctive white eyebrow.



Eastern Shrike-tit

(*Falcunculus frontatus*)

Rare, SA

Males have bright yellow underparts and a black throat; females have an olive-green throat and are duller.



Willie Wagtail

(*Rhipidura leucophrys*)

Often seen chasing insects, with its tail fanned and wagging.



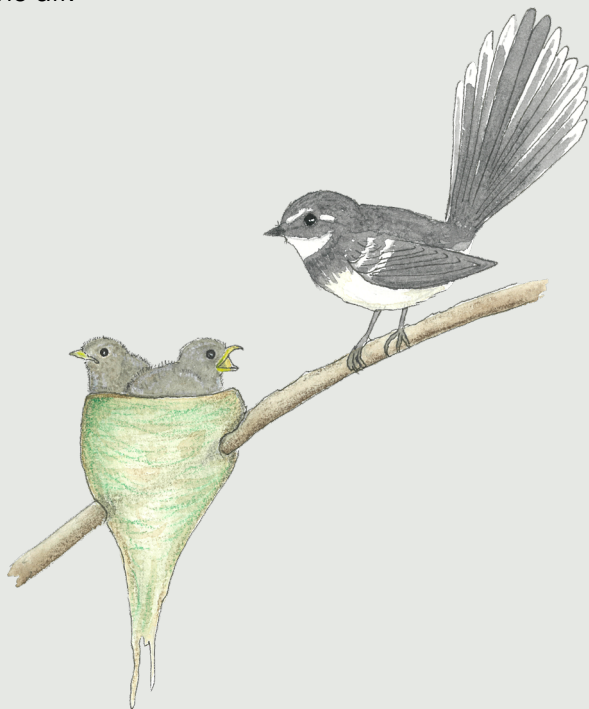
Did you know?

Eastern Shrike-tits have a noisy habit – they tear bark from trees with their strong beaks to find insects. They are listed as Rare in South Australia, so protecting mature woodland and the trees they use for feeding is important.

Grey Fantail

(*Rhipidura albiscapa*)

Fans its tail as it flies, often catching insects in the air.



Mistletoebird

(*Dicaeum hirundinaceum*)

Males have a glossy blue-black head and bright red throat and chest; females are grey above and white below, with a paler red undertail.



Scarlet Robin

(*Petroica boodang*)

Rare, SA

Males have a scarlet-red breast; females are soft brown.



Did you know?

Mistletoebirds help spread mistletoe. They eat the berries and pass the sticky seeds, which can be wiped onto branches where new mistletoe plants can grow. Mistletoe is a native plant that provides food and shelter for many animals.

Aerial Birds

Welcome Swallow

(*Hirundo neoxena*)

Flies in looping patterns while catching insects in the air.



Dusky Woodswallow

(*Artamus cyanopterus*)

Often seen in groups, catching insects in the air or from leaves.



Native Pigeons

Common Bronzewing

(*Phaps chalcoptera*)

Males have a yellow-white forehead and pink breast; females have a grey forehead and plainer grey underparts.



Crested Pigeon

(*Ocyphaps lophotes*)

Look for its tall crest and bronze-green wings.



Did you know?

Crested Pigeons are native to Australia. They were once mainly found inland but have expanded their range and are now common in Adelaide.

Contribute to bird science with iNaturalist



The more we notice, the more we learn. iNaturalist is a global online scientific community where people share observations of plants, animals and fungi. By recording what you discover, you can help build a better understanding of the species that live around us.

Getting started is easy

- Download the iNaturalist app.
- Take a photo of something you discover.
- Upload your observation and receive help identifying it.
- Keep exploring and recording what you find.
- Every observation tells a small part of a much larger story.

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For more information on our Reservoirs for Nature program please scan the QR code or visit sawater.com.au

Notes

