



QUEENSLAND FIRE AND EMERGENCY SERVICES

MIKE WASSING AFSM
Deputy Commissioner



As Deputy Commissioner with Queensland Fire and Emergency Services (QFES), Mike is committed to providing strategic leadership and coordination of regional disaster management functions and regional operations for the Fire and Rescue Service, Rural Fire Service and State Emergency Service across the state's seven regions.

Mike is committed to enhancing and strengthening QFES capabilities and promoting an inclusive and supportive culture that enriches our ability to support our local communities.

Mike has served in emergency services in both Queensland and Victoria for more than 30 years and has extensive experience leading the management and coordination of prevention, preparedness, response and recovery for all hazards, as well as strategic control and coordination for major emergencies.

Mike's career with QFES began in September 2015 as Deputy Commissioner for the Emergency Management, Volunteerism and Community Resilience Division where he was responsible for the accountabilities of the State Emergency Service SES, Rural Fire Service RFS and Emergency Management and Community Capability within the Department, including support to approximately 37,000 volunteers. Mike led the development of the first QFES Climate Change Action Plan, was instrumental in driving the QFES 2030 and Volunteerism Strategies and has championed many initiatives in the workplace to positively change organisational culture. His most notable achievement has been increasing women's equality within the workplace by providing support, coaching and mentoring to many officers to guide their progression.

Mike holds a Bachelor of Applied Science in Environmental Management and Land Use Policy, a Diploma in Firefighting Operations and Fire Management, and a Graduate Diploma of Business (Strategic Management). Mike was a participant in the Executive Fellowship Program of Australia and New Zealand School of Government in 2017 and is a graduate of the Australian Institute of Company Directors and a graduate member of the Institute of Fire Engineers.

Mike was awarded the National Emergency Medal for the 2009 Black Saturday fires in Victoria, Tropical Cyclone Debbie in 2017, and the 2019 North Queensland monsoon event. In 2019, he received the Australian Fire Service Medal (AFSM) for consistently demonstrating exceptional leadership to enhance volunteerism in emergency services and driving organisational change.