



Marine Rescue Implementation Monthly

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October 2022

Welcome message from Acting Assistant Commissioner Cheryl-Lee Fitzgerald

The Marine Rescue Implementation Program continues to move towards a single integrated marine rescue service – Marine Rescue Queensland. The project team has been out and about visiting units and meeting with volunteers as part of the Roadshow and providing program updates and undergoing logo consultation. I was pleased to join the team at the Cairns Roadshow and met with QF9 Cairns volunteers.

Thank you to the units who have hosted the project team and thank you to the volunteers who have attended the sessions. We certainly appreciate the time and effort in attending.

Logo consultation for Marine Rescue Queensland has been extended to **31 October 2022** and I encourage any volunteer who has not yet had the opportunity to have their say, to do so. The feedback is critical and helps inform the logo development.

The Marine Rescue Implementation Working Group met on the 18 October 2022 and an update will be provided in a Communique after the meeting.

Stay up-to-date with the Marine Rescue Implementation Program by [subscribing to our communications](#) which continues to be the central source of information about the implementation program. Volunteers are also encouraged to become part of the [Queensland Marine Rescue Volunteers Facebook Group](#).

We are entering the busiest time of the year for marine rescue volunteers with upcoming holiday season and Queenslanders heading to the waterways as the weather warms up. This also coincides with the start of the severe weather season with the Bureau of Meteorology declaring a third La Nina event, and we encourage everyone to stay safe out on the water.

Queensland Fire and Emergency Services (QFES) extends our continued thanks and appreciation to marine rescue volunteers for your service, and contributions to keeping our communities safe on the water.



Photo: Marine Rescue Implementation Program Director, Matthew Thompson updating VMR Gladstone volunteers.

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Logo survey extended



Thank you to the 700 volunteers who have participated in the [Marine Rescue Queensland Logo Survey](#).

The [survey](#) has been extended to **Monday, 31 October 2022** and all volunteers are encouraged to get involved and have their say. The [survey](#) has three questions and only takes two minutes to complete.

There has been significant interest in the logos and it will shape the future identity of Marine Rescue Queensland. We encourage all marine rescue volunteers to share their views and contribute to the conversation and logo development in the concept stages.

The results of the survey will be reported to the Marine Rescue Implementation Working Group for progression. The outcomes will also be communicated to volunteers once work is complete.

Survey queries should be directed to the MRI team via email on marinerescue@qfes.qld.gov.au.

[Take part in the logo survey](#)

Training support for volunteers and communities



More than \$400,000 funding has been provided to Volunteer Marine Rescue Queensland Association (VMRAQ) to build foundation marine qualifications through training for communities and volunteers in the Torres Strait and Gulf of Carpentaria.

The funding will support community members and future volunteers to receive their Recreational Marine Driver's Licence (RDML), providing support to existing and future demand on services.

Maritime Safety Queensland (MSQ) are assisting with the program, which will enhance training and capability in communities across the Torres Strait and Gulf of Carpentaria.

VMRAQ identified that there was limited access to obtaining marine qualifications in the Far Northern remote areas and this was impacting local communities. VMRAQ proactively worked with MSQ and QFES to develop a program and secure funding for the communities to grow capability locally.

Above Photo: Provided by VMRAQ.

Direct Unit Relief Grants

The 2022-23 Direct Unit Relief Grants are now closed and are being assessed, and those who applied will be advised the outcome of applications by 30 November 2022.

The Direct Relief Unit grants provided \$10,000 per marine rescue unit to directly support marine rescue services and emergency response capability which includes the replacement of necessary equipment or fund facility maintenance based on local needs.

Thank you to all units who submitted their applications.

Have your say in the sentiment survey

Marine rescue volunteers are encouraged to take part in the [Marine Rescue Implementation Sentiment Survey](#). The [survey](#) helps the program understand marine rescue volunteers' views and sentiment towards the program and will be offered on a continuous basis to

volunteers throughout the program

Survey responses are anonymous and only take one minute to participate. Take part [here](#).



Resource to Risk Project Update



The Resource to Risk project is continuing to rollout with Australian Volunteer Coast Guard Association (AVCGA) Flotillas To date, visits have been completed with:

- QF3 Redcliffe (pilot flotilla)
- QF5 Noosa (pilot flotilla)
- QF25 Cape York
- QF11 Yeppoon
- QF21 Sandy Straits
- QF6 Mooloolaba
- QF9 Cairns
- QF16 Cooktown (pilot flotilla)
- QF2 Brisbane
- QF19 Rockhampton
- QF20 Keppel Sands
- QF17 Tin Can Bay
- QF4 Caloundra

Remaining visits are due to be completed in the coming weeks. Once Unit Profiles have been validated during these visits they will be sent to Flotillas for final review in early November. Following this a final report will be developed collating the findings from the profiles and presented to the Marine Rescue Implementation Working Group in December. Our thanks to all Flotilla members and AVCGA Executives who have contributed to this important work.

Above Photo: QF 6 Mooloolaba taking part in the Resource to Risk Project. Sourced QF 6 Mooloolaba Facebook page.

Volunteers take part in Black Dog ride



VMRAQ State Manager Keith Williams and VMR Brisbane volunteer Charles Linsley took part in the Black Dog Ride to the Alice Springs in August.

The event was held for the first time in two years with 100 participants and support crew from Queensland.

This year Keith and Charles were joined by Queensland Ambulance Service's Mark Taylor and Darren Burgess and Mackay State Emergency Services Area Controller, Michael Young.

Black Dog Ride is a national charity involving around 10,000 motorcyclists who ride to raise awareness of depression and suicide prevention.

Above Photo: Charles Linsley and Keith Williams participating in Black Dog Ride with QAS officer Mark Taylor and Darren Burgess and Mackay SES Controller Michael Young. Photo Supplied by Keith Williams.

Australia Day Awards 2023



The Australia Day Achievement Awards are a proud QFES tradition. The awards are an inspiring way to acknowledge and celebrate the outstanding achievements of our colleagues who often go above and beyond the normal course of duty to provide significant contributions to the delivery of fire and emergency services in Queensland.

The awards extend to AVCGA and VMRAQ volunteers who have provided outstanding support and commitment to QFES and their community.

Nominations are open for Australia Day Certificate of Appreciation - [Nomination Form \(QFES Website\)](#)

Nominations must be submitted to marinerescue@gfes.qld.gov.au by 5pm Monday, 24 October 2022. The 2023 Australia Day Achievement Awards will be presented at ceremonies being held across the state from 16 January 2023.

New team member – Dawn Foster

Meet our new Training Specialist, Dawn Foster.

Dawn has extensive experience in the educational and vocational training areas both in the United Kingdom and Australia for over 30 years, with 17 of those spent in the Vocation Training Space in Australia.

Previously, Dawn has worked in a variety of industries focussing on quality assurance and compliance to meet several regulatory requirements including for Department of Transport and Main Roads, Civil Aviation Safety Authority, Volunteering Queensland, and Australian Standards Quality Authority.

She has worked across a range of sectors from multinational corporates, local government, private businesses and Registered Training Organisations (RTOs), emergency services training organisations, and universities.

Dawn will be focussing on building a training stream with the volunteers that combines the skills and expertise of current marine rescue training staff and marine rescue volunteers. She is well versed in licencing and regulatory requirements and translating into engaging training programs which are safe and enhance the learning experience.



Community Sustainability Action Grant



[Funding is available for community-led projects](#) for renewable energy and energy efficiency solutions for Queensland.

Grants up to \$100,000 (excluding GST) will be provided for eligible projects that give community organisations including marine rescue units to reduce emission, boost renewables and reduce energy use and costs that come with running facilities and services.

Marine rescue units will need to apply directly for the grants [here](#). Applications close at 4pm, Wednesday 7 December 2022.



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To provide feedback or suggest story ideas for the future communications, please email:
marinerescue@qfes.qld.gov.au

[Join the Queensland Marine Rescue Volunteers Facebook Group](#)

QFES acknowledges and recognises Traditional Owners as custodians of the lands where we work together with the communities of Queensland. We pay our respects to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander ancestors of these lands, their spirits and their legacy.

Hyperlinks

Marine Rescue Implementation Program

www.qfes.qld.gov.au/MRQ

Queensland Marine Rescue Volunteers (QFES) Facebook Group

www.facebook.com/groups/qldmarinerescuevolunteers

Marine Rescue Queensland Logo Survey

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/56723Z5>

Marine Rescue Implementation Sentiment Survey

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/GK2BQ9J>

Australia Day Awards

Australia Day Certificate of Appreciation

<https://www.qfes.qld.gov.au/sites/default/files/2022-09/QFES-ADA-Certificate-of-Appreciation-Form-2023.pdf>

Community Sustainability Action Grant

<https://www.qld.gov.au/environment/management/funding/community-sustainability>

This email was sent by Marine Rescue Implementation, Marine Rescue Implementation, Level 3, 85 Hudson Road, Albion, Queensland 4010, Australia to EMCCDirectorate@qfes.qld.gov.au

