



S.C. SEA GRANT CONSORTIUM
Coastal Science Serving South Carolina

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November 10, 2022

Dear SARE Grants Representative:

I am writing this letter in support of the proposal, "The Effectiveness of Attracting Oyster Spat on PVC versus Bamboo Stakes as a Reef Restoration Effort in the North Edisto River" to the SARE Producer Grant Program.

The S.C. Sea Grant Consortium (Consortium) is a member of a nationwide network of 34 Sea Grant College Programs that are certified by the National Sea Grant College Program, which is located within the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. The Consortium is charged with managing and administering the Sea Grant program for the State of South Carolina and regionally. We generate and provide science-based information on issues and opportunities to improve the social and economic well-being of our coastal citizens while ensuring the optimal use and conservation of our marine and coastal natural resources. The Consortium supports the proposed project as the results will be directly applicable to the S.C. Sea Grant Shellfish Aquaculture program area, which disseminates science to the S.C. bivalve aquaculture industry.

The Consortium has previously worked with Barrier Island Oyster Company, a key stakeholder in our regional shellfish industry, and look forward to partnering to create meaningful outcomes for our region. By striving to increase the economic and environmental sustainability of their business, they stand to improve the overall industry and raise the bar for southeast shellfish growers. As a partner, the Consortium will assist with the organization of research findings and collaborate on opportunities to distribute and share this information with our coastal communities and members of the regional shellfish industry. The results of this project will be of great benefit to specific goals of the Consortium which include: supporting the identification and development of innovative management strategies and other approaches through applied research to maximize the long-term sustainability of fisheries and aquaculture enterprises in South Carolina.

I look forward to collaborating with Barrier Island Oyster Company to achieve the goals of this project, and sincerely hope the project is considered for funding. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me using the information below.

Sincerely,

Sarah Pedigo
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Member Institutions

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