# Seagrass Restoration Technology Development Initiative Technology Advisory Council Meeting

## Mote SEA – February 13, 2026 9:00 AM

1. **Welcome to Mote SEA**
2. **Logistics and Meeting Overview**
3. **TAC Roll Call**
4. **Co-Chair opening comments**
5. **Florida Sunshine and Public Records Laws and FAR Notice**
6. **Seagrass Initiative Overview**
7. **Initiative Partners - DEP, UF, Mote**
8. **DEP Grant Agreement and Reporting Requirements – Eve Iavarone**
9. **Seagrass Initiative Progress Overview**
10. **Facility Updates – Liz Longstreet**
11. **Genetic Management Plan update – Dr. Dom Gallery**
12. **10-Year Seagrass Restoration Plan – Becky Prado, Moffatt & Nichol**
13. **Funded Project Overview – Year 2 Presentations**
    a. Continued work from Dr. Laura K. Reynolds, University of Florida
    b. *Comprehensive assessment of the genomic variability in Syrangodium filiforme populations in relation to environmental and stressor heterogeneity across Florida* – Dr. Iris Segura Garcia, Florida Atlantic University Harbor Branch
    c. *Supporting Seagrass Restoration in Lake Worth Lagoon* –Joanna Walczak, Loggerhead Marinelife Center
    d. *Differential gene expression and productivity in response to ocean warming for two Halodule wrightii populations across a latitudinal cline* –Mya Wayne, University of New Orleans
    e. *Seagrass Strikes Back: A new hope for fighting Marine heatwaves (MHWs) with Thermo-Priming* – Carla Perscky, University of Central Florida
    f. *Influence of biochar on seagrass growth, health, and ecological interactions* – Dr. Toufiq Reza, Florida Institute of Technology
    g. *Investigating the Influence of Ocean Acidification on Seagrass Resilience to Nutrient Loading* – Dr. Robert Johnson, University of Wisconsin-Madison
    h. *The Resiliency of Halodule wrightii to Increased Temperature, Freshwater Discharge, and Light Limitation Florida* — Dr. Megan Conkling, Florida Atlantic University Harbor Branch
    i. **BREAK – Lunch provided**

j. *Assisting the role of interspecific competition and sediment quality stressors on shoal grass restoration* – Dr. Jennifer Hansen, Brevard Zoo

**14. Funded Project Overview – Year 3 Presentations**

a. *Information on seagrass genetic diversity (Year 1) in Tampa Bay offers insight into restoration protocols and sets the stage for the next sets of field and mesocosm studies* – Dr. Christina Richards, Ecosphere Restoration Institute/USF
b. *Developing Technology for Kilometer Scale Seagrass Restoration in Florida* – Nate L'Esperance, Ulysses Ecosystem Engineering
c. *Assisting seagrass recovery in Southwest Florida: Examination of transcriptome-wide gene expression variation to identify low-light resilient Halodule wrightii genotypes* – Dr. Mallory Sea, Gulf Shellfish Institute
d. *Using Long-Term Passive Acoustics to Evaluate Seagrass Restoration Efforts* – Dr. Jim Locascio, Mote
e. *Continued exploration of the potential for seed-based restoration using Manatee Grass* – Treiana Zuill, Florida International University
f. *Testing variation in stress tolerance and restoration potential of Florida seagrass subpopulations* – Dr. Althea Moore, Texas A&M University – Corpus Christi

**15. Next RFP Discussion**

**16. TAC Discussion Topics**

**17. Public Comments – 3 minutes each or via card/email**