

Permit Application for Sample Collection - Sibuyan Island

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To whom it may concern,

Greetings in peace!

We are BS Biology students of the University of Santo Tomas writing this email to ask regarding the procedures for permit application as well as to formally request permission to be able to collect samples for our undergraduate thesis study entitled "An Investigation of the Accumulation Capabilities of *Timonius* sp. and Its Allied Species at Sibuyan Islands Ultramafic Sites in the Philippines", specifically in gathering and samples of the plant *Timonius* sp. near the base of Mt. Guiting-guiting We are planning to only stay for 2 days maximum.

We are deeply interested in understanding and exploring the capabilities of *Timonius* sp. as it is a still understudied group of plants. As such, we would require access to specific species from that particular group of plants, that can be found in the area near Mt. Guiting-guiting in Sibuyan, to further explore and analyze its heavy metal accumulation capabilities.

We understand that we will be going in a protected area and that there will be certain rules, regulations, and guidelines to be observed. We will strictly adhere to these regulations and safety protocols to ensure the safety of not only the team but also the environment.

We look forward to your response and highly appreciate your cooperation. Thank you!

Best Regards,

Njell Leigh Camaya, Delma Klm Beatriz, Portia Beltran, Leizel Angelica De Guzman, Dominique Ysobel Perlas BS Biology, Major in Medical Biology Students University of Santo Tomas

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