

Diana Ruiz and Cordelia Che

On May 21st-23rd, 2009, six Bachelor's Natural Resource Management (BNRM) Students embarked on a journey to Punta Gorda Town to assist the Toledo Institute for Development and the Environment (TIDE) with a proposed project to manage their Private Protected Lands (PPL). The initiative was lead by UBNRM alumni and TIDE's Jr. Terrestrial/Freshwater Biologist, Mr. Elmar Requena and Mr. Eugenio Ah, TIDE's PPL Manager. The first activity that the students engaged in was planting 250 mahogany seeds in the nursery at PPL. Other activities which the students assisted with included measuring and outlining a proposed trail for the area in addition to measuring an existing trail proposed as an interpretive trail. Additionally, the students gave suggestions on the design to highlight selected trees along the trail to improve the beauty of the trail. These activities were done in an effort to enhance the recreational potential and scenic beauty of the area for educational awareness and also to attract visitors to the area.



The students were able to gain a wealth of knowledge and return with pleasant experiences. This opportunity was made possible by TIDE and its capable staff. We would like to thank several people including Ms. Janelle Borland and Mr. Luis Ishim, PPL Rangers who must be recognized for their excellent hospitality and effort in making the trip a success.



Students: Michelle Noralez, Shakera Arnold, Cordelia Che, Raquel Chun, Diana Ruiz, and Jazmin Ramos

