Research Activity Report Supported by "Leading Graduate Program in Primatology and Wildlife Science"

(Please be sure to submit this report after the trip that supported by PWS.)

	2015. 05, 11
Affiliation/Position	Primate Research Institute /M1
Name	Makiko Take

1. Country/location of visit

Koshima Island, Miyazaki, Japan

2. Research project

Training Course for Observation on Monkey's Behavior

3. Date (departing from/returning to Japan)

2015. 04. 25 – 2015. 05. 01 (7 days)

4. Main host researcher and affiliation

Mr. Takafumi Suzumura, technical staff at Koshima Field Station / Dr. Akiko Takahashi, postdoctoral fellow at Wildlife Research Center, Kyoto University

5. Progress and results of your research/activity (You can attach extra pages if needed)

Please insert one or more pictures (to be publicly released). Below each picture, please provide a brief description.

Thirteen students from PRI participated in this training course and Prof. Goro Hanya and Dr. John Sha instructed us. The main purpose of this course was to learn the basic process of field research. Each student was requested to find his or her own research theme in Koshima Island, to test a hypothesis on it in the field, and to present the results.

< Schedule >

- 4/25 (Sat.) 15:00 Arrived at Koshima Field Station / 20:00 Short lecture on how to use Excel and R by Prof. Hanya
- 4/26 (Sun.) 10:00 Visited Koshima Island for the first time / 14:00 Discussion about students' research plans
- 4/27 (Mon.) 9:30 Observation and experiments for each research / 9 students stayed in the island overnight
- 4/28 (Tue.) 9:30 Observation and experiments
- **4/29 (Wed.)** No field work due to bad sea condition / Prepared for the presentation
- 4/30 (Thir.) 12:00 Presentation by the students /16:00 Tour to Toi cape to see wild houses /19:00 Party at night
- **5/1 (Fri.) 9:00** Clean up the station / **11:00** Breakup

The task of this course was so challenging for me, because it was my first experience to observe monkey's behavior and to build up the research plan in such a short period. I realized that, when I was elaborating on the research plan, it is so important to consider at the beginning what I aim to discuss finally and which statistical analysis should be appropriate for it. Thanks to a lot of advices by Prof. Hanya and Dr. Takahashi, there was a prospect for data analysis before I started the fieldwork actually. That is why the rest process of the research proceeded smoothly. I need to acquire an ability to think logically and to equip deep knowledge about statistics in order to conduct the field research by myself in near future.

Living together and cooking are also essential parts of any field researches. It was good opportunity for us to be familiar with them. Although preparing meals for 15 people was heavy work, every time we cooperated and enjoyed wonderful meals. We also enjoyed swimming in the sea and playing games at free time. It was another great fruit of this course that we became acquainted better with one another through the communal life.

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Photos



My research scenes (right and left). Left one was took by Dr. John.



The beautiful landscape of Koshima Island (left). Students who stayed in the island overnight (right).



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Preparing for the presentation (left). The foods which was praised by Prof. Hanya (right).



We enjoyed chattering and playing games after dinner.



A herd of wild horses in Toi cape (left and right).

6. Others

I would like to express my gratitude to PWS for supporting this program. I would also like to thank Prof. Hanya, Dr. Sha, Dr. Takahashi and Mr. Suzumura for guiding our research.

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