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.)

	2016.12.6
Affiliation/Position	Wildlife Research Center/D2
Name	Miho Saito

1. Country/location of visit

Katavi National Park, Tanzania

2. Research project

Study of nursery strategy of giraffe (*Giraffa camelopardalis tippelskirchi*)

3. Date (departing from/returning to Japan)

2016.6.4 – 2016.12.1 (180 days)

4. Main host researcher and affiliation

Tanzania Wildlife Research Institute/Tanzania National Parks

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.

I stayed at Katavi National Park, Tanzania to conduct study on nursery strategy of giraffe. However, the birth timing of this year was delayed from when I expected. Therefore, I slightly changed my aims of field study as followings.

1. Individual relationship

I identified 22 males, 13 females, 7 juveniles and 2 calves based on the pelage patterns on the necks. Among them, I observed 15 males, 9 females, 7 juvenile and 2 calves more than 5 times. I am going to do DAI (Dyadic Association Index) analysis for the individuals which I observed more than 5 times. Additionally, I will analysis if there is any difference of individual relationship among individuals which I have observed since 2010/2011.

2. Proximity of different age-sex classes on different situations

I did focal animal sampling on 14 males, 11 females, 7 juveniles and 3 calves. Among them, 5 males, 5 females, 7 juveniles and 2 calves, I could follow more than 10 hours in total. Currently, I am analyzing if there is any differences in actor/receiver of proximity or proximity duration depend on 5 different behaviors (Feed, Stand, Move, Social Behavior, Others).

3. Behavior pattern based on the time

I recorded what each individual in the herd did for each 10 minutes. I will analysis the activity pattern depends on the time.

General overview

It is impossible to conduct my research without the help from ranger of national park. When I was in master course, sometimes it was troublesome to get it. However, because of the great understanding of people of national park, I could have great support from rangers and management stuff during this stay. This was my 6th times visit in Katavi national park, however I became anxious before leaving Japan. Because this was the longest stay at there. However, now I feel I could survive 6 months because of the support from people of Katavi. I appreciate it.

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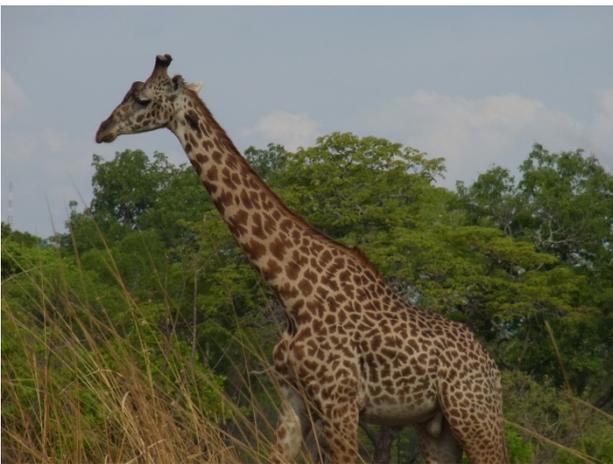Figure 1. Giraffe were waiting hippo to cross the river. After hippo crossed it, they followed the same path.

Figure 2. Adult male which I recorded in 2011 for the first time.

6. Others

I would like to express my sincere gratitude to the PWS program for supporting this course. Many thanks to people of Katavi National Park for supporting my project.