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.)

	2018. 07, 02
Affiliation/Position	Wildlife Research Center/M1
Name	Yuto Taki

1. Country/location of visit

Japan, Yakushima island

2. Research project

Study on the Yakushima macaque (as Yakushima Field Science Course)

3. Date (departing from/returning to Japan)

2018. 05. 19 – 2018. 05. 25 (7 days)

4. Main host researcher and affiliation

Dr. Hanya, Associate Professor at Primate Research Institute, 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.

During the field science course, we conducted research on the Yakushima macaque. The purpose of this research was to investigate the potential influence of human activity on the distribution of Yakushima macaques.

From May 20th to May 22nd, we conducted line transects in forest roads and recorded the detections of feces, direct observation, and vocalization of the Yakushima macaque, using GPS. Also, we collected the feces samples for Genome Science Course.

On May 23rd and 24th, we analyzed the detection data with QGIS. We explored how different land use areas such as plantation and cropland, as well as how the distance from villages and elevation, may have an influence on macaque presence.

I used this opportunity to learn how to find and collect feces samples through line transects, analyze the detection data with OGIS.

As a result, macaques were more likely to be detected far away from villages, which may suggest that human activity influences the distribution of individuals on the island.

Through this experience, I have improved my sampling skill, and have learned how to deal with geographical information, which will be of great help in my research on genetic diversity analyses of the Ryukyu flying fox.



Figure.1 Yakushima macaques with a new born baby

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Figure.2 Kuchinoerabu island. One of the habitats of the Ryukyu flying fox, which can be seen from Yakushima island

6.	Others

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