

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.)

2016.3.29

Affiliation/Position	PRI/M1
Name	Shintaro Ishizuka

1. Country/location of visit

Takasakiyama, Ohita prefecture

2. Research project

Takasakiyama practice

3. Date (departing from/returning to Japan)

2016.3.23-3.25

4. Main host researcher and affiliation

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 got Takasakiyama practice whose objectives were to watch provisioned, free-ranging Japanese monkeys. Observing was on 25th March. In Takasakiyama more than 1000 monkeys among three troops live and each group is provisioned separately. Provisioning separately is different from that in Arashiyama or Shimokita where I visited before. Although in usual monkeys of just dominant troops can access to valuable food due to troop contests, in Takasakiyama human control enables those of every group to get good food. By them density of monkeys might be increased so much. In addition according to talks by keepers, male monkeys often fall in love to females in different troops. Given that some troops share same provisioning site and group encounters happen so frequently, the number of extra troop paternities might be high although it is too difficult to collect DNA samples of so many individuals.

In this practice most participants were foreigners. Although I had some opportunities to interact with foreigners, it was for the first time to spend with so many foreigners and few Japanese people. So at first I was afraid of communication during this trip. But in fact it was so enjoyable. This experience would help me to go abroad and talk with foreigners in PRI. I continuously utilize PWS practices or other events to develop my skill of English.



Japanese monkeys



Group photo

6. Others

This program was supported by PWS Leading Program. I would like to appreciate this program and all participants.