

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. 08. 10

Affiliation/Position	Wildlife Research Center/D1
Name	Sota Inoue

1. Country/location of visit
Iriomote island, Okinawa
2. Research project
Iriomote field course
3. Date (departing from/returning to Japan)
2018.11.7-2018.11.11
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.
<p>In Iriomote field course, we had various types of activities including trekking, kayaking, and snorkeling.</p> <p>1. We rode on a boat going to the upper stream of Urauchi river for 20-30minutes. After arriving at the port on the upper stream, we got off the boat and trekked to the more upper area. There are two big waterfalls called as Mariud and Kanpire respectively. It took 45minutes to 1hour to the final destination, that is Kanpire. We saw many types of plants and trees including mangroves during trekking. Actually, I experienced this field course two years ago. At that time, it was not so easy to remember names and features of plants and mangroves, but in this time, I was able to remember those things easily. The experience in the first time surely helped me.</p> <p>2. We kayaked on Nishida river that is located near Iriomote field station. Many mangroves are on both banks of Nishida river. We felt a difference of temperature between the water from the sea is mixed with the water of the river. Another interesting point was a big difference of height of the tide. When we just started kayaking, tide was high, but when we were on the return way, tide was quite low. This drastic change caused the exposure of tideland. Therefore, we couldn't row paddles and pull the boat. On tideland, we found many small crabs called as Kometsukigani in Japanese.</p> <p>3. We snorkeled around coral. Prof. Naruse gave us the short lecture before the snorkeling. The water was very clear and I saw many species of fish and two species of sea snakes. Our plan is visiting three points, but we quit visiting all points because the weather was bud and the waves were high.</p> <p>Iriomote field course was quite worthwhile. Researchers on animals need to get a lot of knowledge and experience with respect to the variable ecosystem. We saw many animals and plants living in the tropical region. Tropical is definitely a valuable area where many animals still live hence the importance in terms of conservation is very high. The problem is that we do not have much tropic area in Japan, therefore usually chances to directly touch and see that is almost nothing. To achieve this, the roll of this practice field course is quite important.</p>
 
6. Others
I am very grateful to Professors who gave us many knowledge and organized this field course, stuffs in Iriomote field station who also helped us, and finally PWS gave me this opportunity.

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