

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.)

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Affiliation/Position	Wildlife Research Center/M1
Name	Ena Onishi

1. Country/location of visit	Japan, Koshima
2. Research project	Koshima Field Practice
3. Date (departing from/returning to Japan)	2019/05/07-2019/05/13
4. Main host researcher and affiliation	Dr. Hideki Sugiura (Professor at WRC), Dr. Takafumi Suzumura (technical staff at Koshima Field Station))
5. Progress and results of your research/activity (You can attach extra pages if needed)	<p>Please insert one or more pictures (to be publicly released). Below each picture, please provide a brief description.</p> <p>In the Koshima Field Practice, 9 students including international students and 3 teachers have spent a week in Miyazaki Prefecture, visiting Cape Toi and Koshima Islet. The schedule of the course is as follows: Day 1: Arrive at Koshima field station Day 2: Visit Cape Toi Day 3: Arrive Koshima Islet Day 4: Fieldwork at Koshima Islet Day 5: Fieldwork at Koshima Islet and going back to the station Day 6: Presentation Day 7: Depart from Koshima</p> <p>On Day 2, we went to Cape Toi to observe feral horses. The horses were very calm and highly habituated. Since I have never had a chance to observe horses in an environment where they have access to other horses, it was very interesting to see their social interactions.</p> <p>Although the weather was not good, we decided to go Koshima Islet on Day. 3 and experienced camping in rain. It was tough but had so much to learn from this experience. During the field practice in Koshima Islet, I have conducted a research focusing on alpha-male and alpha-female of wild Japanese macaques. These alpha-male and alpha-female were the siblings. Due to the female philopatry of Japanese macaques, it is rare to see siblings being the highest-ranking individual in both sexes of the same group.</p> <p>While it was not my very first time to observe Japanese macaques, I learned a lot of new things. Since I am planning to conduct a research on wild bonobos in Democratic Republic of Congo, it was a great opportunity to practice direct observation as well as video recording. I realized that getting used to binoculars and video camera are vital for animal research especially in wild. Moreover, when I was following the monkeys to the mountain, Suzumura-san taught me about his fieldwork experiences and tips. The most important lesson that I learned from him was that I should be able to climb mountains in 50% of energy and use the rest of 50% for an actual observation.</p> <p>Not only about animals, but the time I spent with all my colleagues were amazing and meaningful. We fished, cooked, watched stars and sang together. This field practice was a great opportunity to get to know with each other and we all had so much fun.</p>

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Feral horses in Cape Toi. The yellow flowers are a kind of buttercups and horses do not feed.



During the field practice, we all worked together to set up a tent and cooked.



The pictures of Japanese macaques during focal observation. They are much harder to find on mountain.

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6. Others

Acknowledgements:

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