

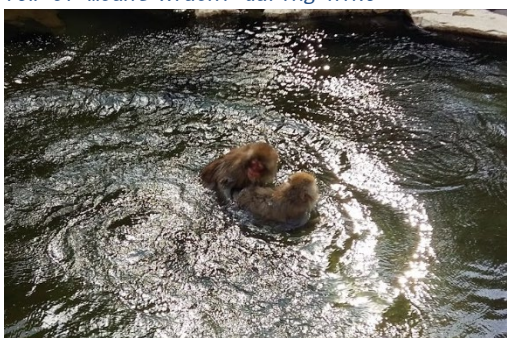


Research Activity Report
Supported by “Leading Graduate Program in Primatology and Wildlife Science”
 (Please be sure to submit this report after the trip that supported by PWS.)

	2019. 10, 07
Affiliation/Position	Wildlife Research Center/M1
Name	James Brooks

1. Country/location of visit	
Sasagamine, Nigata Prefecture, Japan	
2. Research project	
Sasagamine Field Science Course- Non-snow season, Autumn	
3. Date (departing from/returning to Japan)	
2019. 10. 02 – 2019. 10. 05 (4 days)	
4. Main host researcher and affiliation	
Kyoto University Sasagamine Hütte	
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>During this visit, I was able to improve my skills hiking and climbing mountains, observe wild Japanese macaques, and learn important trekking skills such as map reading, identification strategies to recognize local plants and mushrooms, and the importance of partyship in mountaineering trips.</p> <p>We were lucky that despite bad weather in the forecast, throughout the trip we were able to spend our days outside, and were able to make it all the way to the summit of Mount Hiuchi, where we were rewarded with an amazing view. The next day we were lucky enough to observe a group of around 20 Japanese macaques in trees, on the ground, and even crossing a road, where the monkeys used a strategy of crossing sequentially, one at a time.</p> <p>On the last day, we also observed Japanese macaques at Jigokudani, where we could see some enter the hot baths despite warm weather, and saw a number of infants who were developing their social relations with grooming and play behaviours. It was interesting to see the frequency of object-oriented play, where monkeys would handle and travel with sticks, which were sometimes taken by other juveniles, occasionally followed by a chase or vocalizations.</p> <p>It was an extremely valuable and enjoyable trip. I was able to learn about mountain climbing, local flora and fauna, and history of Japanese primatology, as well as spend time observing monkeys. I hope to be able to return for the snow season course in the winter.</p>	 <p style="text-align: center;"><i>View from back of Hutte</i></p>  <p style="text-align: center;"><i>View of Mount Hiuchi during hike</i></p>  <p style="text-align: center;"><i>2 monkeys bathing at Jigokudani</i></p>
<p>*Please have your mentor check your report before submitting it to [report@wildlife-science.org].</p>	

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.)

6. Others

Thank you very much to Matsuzawa-sensei, Sugiyama-sensei, and Fukushima-san for making arrangements for this trip and teaching us valuable knowledge and skills.