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.)

	2017. 5, 12
Affiliation/Position	Wildlife Research Center/D1
Name	Yutaro Sato

1. Country/location of visit

Japan/ Miyazaki prefecture, Koshima and Toi peninsula

2. Research project

Koshima Field Practice Course

3. Date (departing from/returning to Japan)

2017. 4. 16 – 2017. 4. 22 (7 days)

4. Main host researcher and affiliation

Dr. Hideki Sugiura, Associate Professor at Wildlife Research Center, 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.

We aimed to acquire basic skills for observation of animal behaviour and field work through the observation of Japanese macaques in Koshima. We went to Koshima Field Station on April 16th, and landed on the island on 17th. Until 20th, we have stayed in the island conducting observation and staying at camp. In the evening on 20th, we got back to the field station by ship.

This was the first time for me to observe wild Japanese macaques, so I felt it difficult to observe them in the forest. There are two groups of monkeys in the island, "Main group" and "Maki group". The former group seemed to be habituated to humans as opposed to the latter group even though they live in the same island, which I found interesting (Fig. 1).

We were concerned about a bad weather, but fortunately, the weather was not so bad and we could continue the field work (Fig. 2). In some day, we had a hard time finding monkeys in the forest, but we could see various thigs such as plants or a corpse of a monkey (Fig. 3).

On 21st, every participants did presentation. Although we had a really short observation period, other members' presentations were well-structured, which provided me good lessons.

On the last day, we visited Toi peninsula, where we could see wild horses (Fig. 4, 5). Until that time, I have seen only captive horses, so the observation of free ranging





Figure. 1 (a) Two monkeys resting at the beach (left: the photo was taken on April 19th). (b) A monkey in the forest. This photo was taken through the binocular (right: the photo was taken on April 18th).



Figure. 2 The scenery from the upper part of the island. When we were there, we heard a monkey's vocalization and went to find him (the photo was taken on April 19th).

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horses was really exciting.



Figure. 3 The corpse we found in the forest. Judging from morphological characteristics of teeth, it was thought to be a young individual (the photo was taken on April 19th).



Figure. 4 Feral horses in Toi peninsula (the photo was taken on April 22th).



Figure. 5 An infant horse was trying to suck the mother's nipples (the photo was taken on April 22th).

6. Others

Special thanks were given to Prof. Sugiura for the arrangement of this course and his warm cooperation during the whole course. I'm also grateful to Mr. Suzumura for his kind supports in Koshima. I thank to other participants and researchers who were working in Koshima for their kind cooperation.

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