



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/D4
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1. Country/location of visit
Sasagamine (Niigata Pre.)
2. Research project
Sasagamine snow season course
3. Date (departing from/returning to Japan)
2019. 03. 16 – 2019. 03. 20 (5 days)
4. Main host researcher and affiliation
Prof. Sugiyama, Prof. Matsuzawa, Prof. Kohshima, Prof. Fukushima
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>It was my third time to join this course. Even though I joined this course for several times, I could observe many different things from last two times. At first, the snow condition was completely different from last year. Last year, when we climbed Mt. Mitahara, the snow was very icy and the ski often slipped down when I climbed. However, we had snow just the day before climbing day in this year. Therefore, the ski didn't slip down at all and I could feel much safer this time. I always enjoy seeing the view of other snow mountains from the summit.</p> <p>Additionally, we could find many foot prints of wild animals on the snow but not the actual sight of wild animals in previous two snow seasons. Luckily, we could find a hare and the group of Japanese macaque this time. The hare looked much bigger than the rabbit which I usually find in zoo and he run away so fast. Before I found him, I thought maybe hare uses big trees for resting place. However, the hare which we found was resting under thin tree which is easily bent by human. It was wonderful experience to see wild animals living in such tough conditions.</p> <p>I felt it is good experience to join the same course for several times, not only for supporting new students but also to find out the differences of the same environment among different years.</p> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around;"> <div style="text-align: center;">  </div> <div style="text-align: center;">  </div> </div>
<p>Figure 1. The view from the summit of Mt. Mitahara. Figure 2. The foot prints of Japanese macaque on the snow.</p>

6. Others
I would like to thank PWS for letting me to join this course again. I would also like to show my gratitude towards Prof. Sugiyama, Prof. Matsuzawa, Prof. Kohshima, and Prof. Fukushima for guiding us.