

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. 09. 02	
Affiliation/Position	Wildlife Research Center/D2
Name	Maegan Fitzgerald

1. Country/location of visit
United States
2. Research project
Research collaboration at the University of Maryland and Texas A&M University, conferences, and invited seminar speaker
3. Date (departing from/returning to Japan)
2019.04.15 – 2019. 07. 30 (106 days)
4. Main host researcher and affiliation
Dr. Janet Nackoney (Associate Research Professor, University of Maryland) and Dr. Peter Potapov (Co-Director & Research Professor, University of Maryland)
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 collaborated with Dr. Nackoney and Dr. Potapov at the Global Land Analysis & Discovery Lab (UMD) to analyze regional tree cover loss from 2000 to 2018 in the southeastern part of Guinea, Africa. This is the area where I research chimpanzees in Bossou and Nimba. The results from this analysis will provide information on how this landscape has changed over time. This will provide baseline information aimed at assisting Guinea with balancing sustainable development with biodiversity conservation in this region.</p> <p>While in the United States, I was also an invited seminar speaker at Austin College, the academic institution where I earned my bachelor’s degree. (see 3 pictures below). In this presentation I discussed my research more broadly and the implications of my work for conservation of chimpanzees as well as its contribution to planning for sustainable development.</p> <p>After my work at the Univ. of Maryland, I continued my work and collaborations at Texas A&M University where I was a visiting scholar. I then presented preliminary results at the Society for Conservation GIS in CA. At this conference I also participated in a Data Visualization workshop using QGIS and gathered ideas and insights for hopefully putting on another GIS workshop for PWS. (Pictures below)</p> <p>The last portion of my travels included participation at the International Congress for Conservation Biology in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. As part of the pre-congress schedule, I participated in a workshop called, Conservation Innovation: Techniques & Approaches (see picture below). This was a hand-on workshop where we discussed identify conservation problems, ideating solutions, and using design thinking to create effective conservation solutions. At this congress I also presented my research on modeling habitat suitability for chimpanzees and its implications for conservation planning and management activities in the greater Nimba landscape. This congress was a great opportunity to also meet with other researchers and potential collaborators doing similar work.</p> <p>I am currently continuing to analyze tree cover loss and plan to write a manuscript for publication in an academic journal based on the results. I also hope that I can pass this information along to my colleagues in Guinea and the local environmental organization so it can assist with planning and management efforts in the Guinea Forestiere region, particularly the greater Nimba landscape.</p>

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6. Others

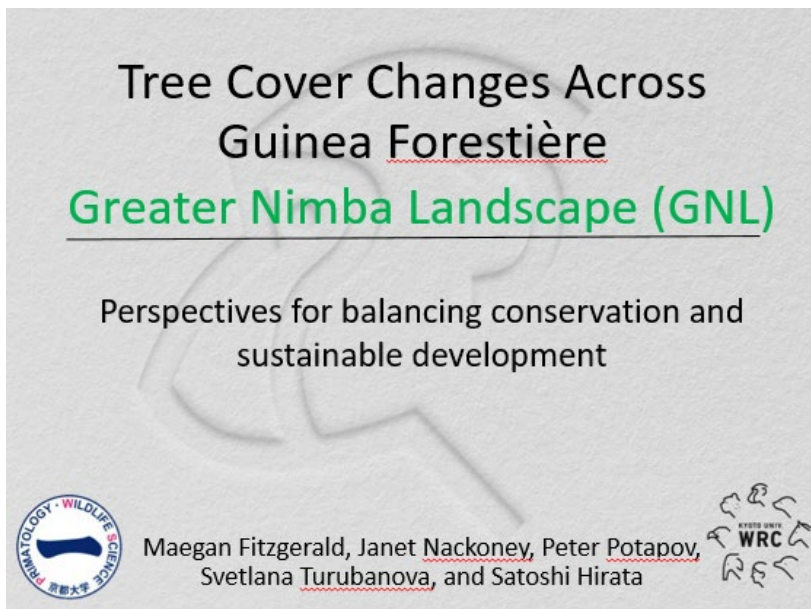


(pictures from the seminar I gave at Austin College)

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(picture of the QGIS workshop group at the SCGIS conference)



(picture of my title slide for the SCGIS conference)

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(picture from the Conservation Innovation workshop I participated in at ICCB 2019)