

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.)

	2015. Jun, 22
Affiliation/Position	Wildlife Research Center/D1
Name	Kasumi Sakakibara

1. Country/location of visit	Mikura island, Tokyo, Japan
2. Research project	Field research on visual searching behavior of wild Indo-pacific bottlenose dolphins at Mikura island, Tokyo, Japan.
3. Date (departing from/returning to Japan)	2015. May. 29 – 2015. Jun. 16 (19 days)
4. Main host researcher and affiliation	Mikura Island Tourist Association
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>Purpose of this visit was a field research on wild Indo-Pacific bottlenose dolphins in Mikura island, especially on their visual searching behavior toward underwater swimmers. During this visit, I conducted direct observation of dolphin behaviors in the water for about 24 hours in total during 12 boat trips (about 2 hours each). I recorded the video data of their behavior by the underwater camera for about 240 minutes in total involving the visual searching behaviors. I will analyze these video records to clarify the differences by sex and age class in this behavior. I will also analyze the group members and position in the group of dolphins during this behavior. During the field research, we observed 7 neonates born in this year and “baby sitting” behavior by older female (Photo 1) . I observed the aerial behaviors more frequently than last year (Photo 2).</p> <p>I will analyze the collected behavior data and prepare a presentation on the results for the conference on the marine mammal biology which will be held in San Francisco, CA, USA, 13-18 December 2015</p> <p>In this visit, I also collected the acoustic data of dolphins as a collaborator of Ms. Kimika Tsuji who study the distributions of Mikura dolphins during night. She will analyze the 24 hours acoustic data recorded around Mikura island in order to clarify where do dolphins swim at night and what do they do there. In addition, I supported the activities of volunteer students for ID survey of the Mikura dolphins. I lectured them about the method of the ID survey.</p>
	<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around;"> <div style="text-align: center;">  <p>Photo 1. Older female swam with a neonate (Recorded by Mio Yanagase)</p> </div> <div style="text-align: center;">  <p>Photo 2. Jumping dolphin recorded by the camera on the vessel</p> </div> </div>

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6. Others

I appreciate kind supports from Michio KURIMOTO who renting me the place for stay in Mikura island. I'm grateful to people of Mikura islands who allowed me to board their boats without a fee and provided me various supports.