



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. Aug, 10
Affiliation/Position	Primate Research Institute/M1
Name	Hiroya Takiyama

1. Country/location of visit
Niigata, Japan
2. Research project
Sasagamine Field Science Course
3. Date (departing from/returning to Japan)
2017. 7. 18 – 2017. 7. 21 (4 days)
4. Main host researcher and affiliation
Prof. Shigeru Sugiyama (Shizuoka 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.
<p>I was given the opportunity to join the Sasagamine field science course in Niigata prefecture. The main purpose of this course was to learn survival skills through climbing Mt. Hiuchi, to learn about ropework, and how to create a bivouac.</p> <p>Schedule 18th July We arrived at the Sasagamine Hutte and toured the surrounding area 19th July We travelled to Karasawa for map-reading training 20th July We climbed Mt. Hiuchi 21st July We learned ropework skills, how to set up a bivouac, and we cleaned the Hutte</p> <p>This was my fourth trip to Sasagamine Hutte and my second time climbing Mt. Hiuchi. I had heard about most of the programs on the PWS course and thought that I may be unlikely to have any new experiences. However, my expectation was incorrect.</p> <p>The most dramatic variation among my visits to Sasagamine was the seasonal differences. I visited Sasagamine three times in fall, but I had not visited in summer. Although both are non-snowy seasons, the landscape was completely different each time. This summer, I found there to be some snow left over from last winter at high altitudes, but surprisingly there had been no snow last autumn. The following pictures were taken during my climbs of Mt. Hiuchi during the previous two years.</p>
<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around; align-items: flex-end;"> <div style="text-align: center;">  <p>Autumn season (from my report last year)</p> </div> <div style="text-align: center;">  <p>summer season</p> </div> </div>

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We had better weather than last time and I was able to enjoy the beautiful views. Although I was not able to see any Japanese macaques or raccoons on this trip, I was able to enjoy other aspects of Sasagamine that were new to me. On this course, I was able to not only learn invaluable survival skills but also the importance of facing new challenges without being biased by prior assumptions.



Mt. Hiuchi reflected in the Tengu-no-Niwa



We climbed Mt. Hiuchi (photo by Prof. Reiko Takizawa)

6. Others

My sincere thanks go to Prof. Sugiyama, Prof. Matsuzawa, Prof. Kojima, and Prof. Takizawa who supervised us on this course. This course was supported by PWS.