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.)

	2018. 6. 8
Affiliation/Position	Lab. of Human Evolution Studies/M1
Name	Tsubasa Yamaguchi

1. Country/location of visit

Yakushima Island, Miyazaki Prefecture, Japan

2. Research project

To participate in "Yakushima Field Science Course"

3. Date (departing from/returning to Japan)

2018.05.19-2018.05.25 (7 days)

4. Main host researcher and affiliation

Dr. Goro Hanya, Associate Professor at Primate Research Institute, Kyoto University

5. Progress and results of your research/activity

During this visit, I participated in "Yakushima Field Science Course" and conducted fieldwork on Japanese macaques in Yakushima.

From May 20th to May 22nd, we conducted route censuses in forest roads in Yakushima to investigate the influence of elevation, distance from villages, and land use by humans on distribution of Japanese monkeys (Macaca fuscata yakui) (Fig.1 and Fig 2). During route censuses, we recorded direct observation, feces, and vocalizations of monkeys, and geotagged the locations where monkeys were detected (Fig.3).

On May 23rd and 24th, we organized our data recorded by GPS and conducted analysis using QGIS software. We found that monkeys were likely to be detected far from villages and to be detected in areas where the proportion of plantation was high by using Generalized Linear Model (GLM). We gave a presentation on our research on May 24th in front of lecturers and plant team members.

This was my first research on wild animals and first experience of using GPS. Also, it was first experience for me to discuss something with non-Japanese people using English. I think these experiences will help me in my future research.



Figure 1. Forest roads in Yakushima. It was really nice to walk in nature.

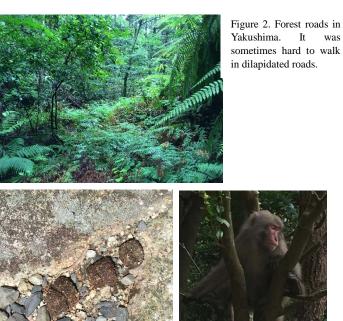


Figure 3. Feces and monkeys found during road censuses.

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6. Others

This course was supported by Leading Graduate Program in Primatology and Wildlife Science (PWS). I would like to express my gratitude to PWS for supporting us. I am also thankful to Hanya-san, Sawada-san, Kurihara-san, and Honda-san for supporting us during our stay in Yakushima.