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.)

	2018.8.19
Affiliation/Position	Primate Research Institute/M1
Name	Shenwen Xu

1. Country/location of visit

Japan/Science Seminar House, North campus, Kyoto University

2. Research project

Conserv' Session #21

3. Date (departing from/returning to Japan)

2018. 7.28

4. Main host researcher and affiliation

Kyoto 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.

After the Fukushima Daiichi nuclear disaster in March 2011, for the concerning of radioactive exposure, people who live in the evacuation designated zones moved out. Other living beings, however, are continuing their lives as always on the same land. They were exposed to radiation after the accident. The film "Fukushima: a record of living things (Episode 1)" (2013) archived a part of the living things who stayed.

The movie depicted the species they have found: such as a family of swallows, cows, Japanese monkeys, wild boar, field mouse and moles; and also, people who chose to stay. Except for the cows and their caretakers, each story was independent and inconsecutive. Lacking unity of stories may be hard for the audience to catch up. Especially the part which supposed to reflect these people who were driven by a strong sense of mission but still along with the feeling of hopelessness. However, on second thought, I realize it is difficult to keep both reality and attractiveness of the story in a documentary film especially in an underprivileged circumstance for filming. It is always a challenge for now and in the future.

After the movie, two guests who study animals live in Fukushima gave talks about their works. Tanaka-san's study of investigation of the radiation effects on pupae was very interesting. I was surprised that his study is possible to solve the practical problem.

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It was also interesting that the movie part and the discussion had quite a contrast. Both were intended to help people to have a better understanding of the truth of effects from the nuclear disaster, but one was based on a freestyle of an unscientific method, the other was guided strictly by science. It is hard to say which one has more impact on the audience, but it was great to have these two together. Because by doing this, it enabled people to consider an artwork more rational and serious, to digest a scientific result easier.

6. Others

I would like to thank PWS for supporting this trip. Thanks PWS students Yanagi Moe et al. organized this event.

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