

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.)

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1. Country/location of visit
Japan/ Niigata prefecture, Sasagamine
2. Research project
Sasagamine Field Science Course
3. Date (departing from/returning to Japan)
26 September 2018 – 29 September 2018
4. Main host researcher and affiliation
Dr. Shigeru Sugiyama, Associate Professor at Shizuoka University Dr. Tetsuro Matsuzawa, Distinguished Professor at Institute for Advanced Study, Kyoto University
5. Progress and results of your research/activity (You can attach extra pages if needed)
<p>For this course, we had the opportunity to visit Sasagamine. This course was held for acquiring fundamental skills necessary for field works.</p> <p>Sep 26th Arrived at Sasagamine, received guidance of the course Sep 27th Went an excursion around the Hutte, received lecture of the drone Sep 28th Climbed Mt. Hiuchi, received lectures on rope work and bivouac instruction Sep 29th Received lectures about equipment for skiing, visited Jigokudani Yaen-koen, returned to Inuyama</p> <p>The first two days, we went for excursions around the Hutte. Dr Sugiyama taught us about plants and animals along the way. I saw many wild edible fruits which I had never seen before, and tied some of them. I knew very little about plants, so these experiences were really fresh and I enjoyed them. In addition, we luckily saw wild Japanese macaques.</p> <p>On the third day, we climbed Mt. Hiuchi. It was raining on and off at that day, so we couldn't see the scenery from the mountain trail so frequently. Finally, we stopped climbing in the middle because of the rain and the coldness. I was a little disappointed that I couldn't reach the summit, but I learned that it is really important to judge not to keep going in the bad situations. This experience would help my future fieldworks a lot especially in the situations which necessitate cool judgement.</p> <p>On an individual basis, the other valuable content of this course is cooking. We cooked very delicious dishes every day and that made this course more enjoyable. I hope to visit Sasagamine again in the snow season for another course.</p>

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Fig. 1 Excursion



Fig. 2 A kind of fritillary



Fig. 3 Wild Japanese macaque



Fig. 4 Drone lecture



Fig. 5 Walking on the open area



Fig.6 With the scenery from the mountain trail



Fig.7 Japanese macaque swimming in the hot spring



Fig. 8 Paella with fresh ingredients

6. Others

I would like to thank the PWS program for supporting this course.

I also would like to express my appreciation to the lecturers and participants of this course.