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 NOV 28	
Affiliation/Position	Wildlife Research Center/M1
Name	Annegret Moto Naito

1. Country/location of visit

Yakushima, Kagoshima Prefecture

2. Research project

Yakushima field course

3. Date (departing from/returning to Japan)

2018. NOV. 3 – 2018. NOV. 9 (7 days)

4. Main host researcher and affiliation

WRC: Dr. Sugiura, Mr. Suzumura, PRI: Mr. Honda, Hokkaido University: Dr. Agetsuma, Ms. Agetsuma, Chubu University: Dr. Sawada, Kyoto University: Dr. Taniguchi

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.

Earlier this month, I participated in the Yakushima field course as a part of the PWS program, together with 15 other students from Kyoto University and abroad (from the CET Bio program). During our time in Yakushima, we stayed at the PWS House in Nagata Town, and it was a great opportunity to spend time with fellow students and lecturers.

We learned the basics of field work by taking part in two tasks over the course of a week. The first task involved collecting fecal samples future DNA analyses (phylogeography/movement of macaques, phylogeography of deer). We covered trails by foot and by car to survey forests and roads for Japanese macaque and sika deer feces. It was challenging to find fresh samples, but it was worth the effort after seeing that many samples yielded decent quality DNA in the analysis stage. The second part of the course involved behavioural observation of Yakushima sika deer. We followed focal individuals and recorded their vocalizations while noting their behaviour and collecting fecal pellets (for future hormonal analysis). At the end of the course, we presented our interim results to receive feedback from lecturers and students in preparation for the final poster presentation. I was mostly involved in the deer vocalization analysis at this stage.







From left to right: a lone grey-faced buzzard migrating to its wintering ground in SE Asia, sika deer (mother and offspring?) foraging, and a group of Japanese macaques grooming

6. Acknowledgements

I thank Dr. Sugiura, Mr. Suzumura, Mr. Honda, Dr. Agetsuma, Ms. Agetsuma, Dr. Sawada, and Dr. Taniguchi their guidance and support. I am indebted to PWS for organizing and funding this trip.

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