# 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.)

	2021. 11, 9
Affiliation/Position	Wildlife Research Center/M1
Name	Sok Hwan Lee

## 1. Country/location of visit

Japan, Koshima Observatory Station/Cape Toi/Koshima Island

### 2. Research project

Study on behaviors of wild Japanese macaques in Koshima island

#### 3. Date (departing from/returning to Japan)

2021. 10. 31 – 2021. 11. 6 (7 days)

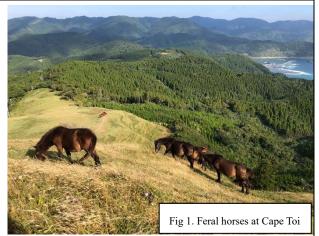
#### 4. Main host researcher and affiliation

Drs. Takafumi Suzumura, Sugiura Hideki (Wildlife Research Center, Kyoto University)

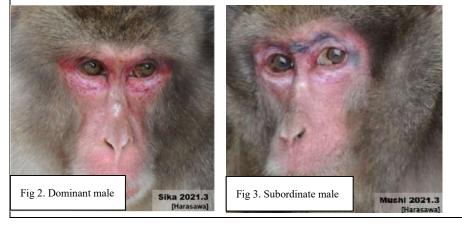
#### 5. Progress and results of your research/activity (You can attach extra pages if needed)

Please insert one or more pictures (to be publicly released). Below each picture, please provide a brief description.

During this trip, I was able to visit Cape Toi and Koshima Island. At Cape Toi, I observed free-ranging feral horses and learned how they were able to adjust to such extreme environment with high elevation and strong winds (figure 1). Then, during the 3 days of stay at Koshima Island, I conducted a short study on the behaviors of wild Japanese macaques. My main focus was to compare between alpha male (figure 2) and subordinate male's (figure 3) social tolerance. I measured number of proximate individuals of each male during co-feeding situation when Dr. Takafumi Suzumura provided wheat to the monkeys on the beach. I have found that the dominant male tends to have less tolerant as he had less conspecifics proximate than the subordinate, especially within 1m distance from the focal individual. I interpreted this result as individuals avoid the



alpha male when he approaches nearby to prevent receiving aggression whereas they know that the low-ranking male is more tolerant. Although it was a short-term observation, I was able to draw out an interesting result. After our return to the Koshima Observatory Station, I shared the result to the colleagues. In addition to how to conduct a field study on wild animals, I learned about the safety issues that should be considered during the fieldwork by climbing a nearby mountain using GPS and compass. As a student who want to study wide variety of animals and their social behaviors, the Koshima field course was very helpful and inspiring.



6. Others