## **Research Activity Report** Supported by "Leading Graduate Program in Primatology and Wildlife Science"

|                      | 2022. 05. 31                |
|----------------------|-----------------------------|
| Affiliation/Position | Wildlife Research Center/M1 |
| Name                 | Magnus Monge                |

## 1. Country/location of visit

Koshima, Miyazaki, Japan

### 2. Research project

Koshima Field Course

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

2022. 05. 09 - 2022. 05. 15 (7days)

### 4. Main host researcher and affiliation

Dr. Sugiura, Professor at 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 visit we stayed at the Koshima field station in Miyazaki. We were unfortunate with the weather and spent many days training on the mainland in how to use camera traps and GPS locators. This training proved fruitful as we were able to capture some photographs of a wild boar. The first day was used to set up our camera traps and instruction in how to utilise the GPS trackers. On the second day we were fortunate enough to observe the feral horses at Cape Toi.

The bad weather continued on day three, four and five and we were unable to go to Kojima Island to observe the macaques. We spent these three days trekking in the local area, continuing to gather data on the local wildlife through GPS and camera trap.

On the sixth day we were fortunate enough to be able to visit Kojima Island During this visit, I conducted observations on the tactile communication between sub-adult and adult individuals of Japanese macaques. Specifically tactical communication that seem to serve no other purpose than physical contact. Human beings, especially children and infants are dependent on physical contact for proper emotional and cognitive development and I wished to investigate if macaques displayed similar behaviours. From these preliminary observations it seems that this form of physical contact is uncommon amongst macaques. However, amicable physical contact is very common among macaques through allogrooming.



Figure 1. Feral mare and foal at Cape Toi.



Figure 2. Allogrooming Macaques at Kojima.

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6. Others