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

	2017 May 18
Affiliation/Position	Primate Research Institute/M1
Name	Nelson Broche

1. Country/location of visit

Cape Toi (Toimizaki) & Koshima, Miyazaki prefecture, Kyushu

2. Research project

Koshima Field Course, ecological field training (experiments with non-invasive saliva collection)

3. Date (departing from/returning to Japan)

2017 Apr 22 – 2017 Apr 30 (9 days)

4. Main host researcher and affiliation

Dr. Michael A. Huffman & Dr. Hiroyuki Tanaka (PRI), Mr. Takafumi Suzumura (Koshima Field Station)

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.

Schedule
22 – 23 Apr: Travel to Koshima & introductory lectures
24 – 25 Apr: Koshima field
26 Apr: Cape Toi
27 Apr: Koshima field
28 Apr: Project presentations
29 – 30: Return travel

For ecological field training, our group had the opportunity to experience fieldwork on the islet of Koshima, Miyazaki prefecture. Our instructors Dr. Huffman and Dr. Tanaka introduced ecological training concepts and guided us during our time in the field. Mr. Suzumura (Koshima Field Station) assisted with safety and shared his detailed knowledge of the monkeys throughout the course. We were encouraged to develop a question, carry out our own field research, and then present our findings.

Saliva can be useful for a variety research approaches such as disease surveillance and acute stress measures. I used this opportunity to experiment on non-invasive saliva collection in semi-free-ranging Japanese macaques on Koshima. There is very little published on non-invasive saliva collection from non-human primates in a field setting, and to my knowledge, there are no published reports of such a method used on Japanese macaques in a field setting. Therefore, I became interested in whether non-invasive saliva collection could be a potential viable research method in semi-free-ranging Japanese macaques. In short, through trial and error, success was had in achieving a foundation for further investigation of non-invasive saliva collection. A more detailed report of this research was submitted separately from this activity report.

In addition to ecological training, our group had the opportunity to visit Cape Toi, Miyazaki prefecture. In particular, we learned of its historical importance; not only to the region but of to primatology as well. The late Kinji Imanishi, who is often regarded as the father of Japanese primatology, performed early ecological studies of wild horses at this location. A guided tour was provided by the Cape Toi Visitor Center.

6. Others

Thanks to Dr. Andrew J.J. MacIntosh, Emiko Nishi, Zhihong Xu, other course students and many others for helpful discussion concerning non-invasive saliva collection; our instructors Dr. Huffman & Dr. Tanaka for their valuable advice and fun company during the course; PWS for assistance in funding this course.

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Botan, a two-year old female, is the first to bite

Dr. Tanaka and Halmi (D1) have a discussion at Cape Toi