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55th FEFCO 2021/6/10 15:00 - 16:30

Faculty of Agriculture Main Building, \$174
via zoom (for registration, please fill out following form
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Assoc. Prof. Masae Ishihara (Field Science Education and Research Center, Kyoto University)

Interdiciprinary and transdisciplinary approach to protect and restore degraded forest ecosystems from deer overgrazing

Deer overgrazing of understory vegetation has caused loss of biodiversity and degradation of ecosystem functions, which became important issues in many places worldwide. As the deer overgrazing continues, loss of recovery ability of the ecosystem has been reported. This means that protection or restoration become even more urgent but more difficult. Scientific understanding and truly effective solutions are still limited.

Ashiu Forest Research Station of Kyoto University has been experiencing deer overgrazing since late 1990. Various researches have been conducted, which revealed that flora and fauna had degraded and both land and river systems had changed. Researcher, Ashiu Forest Research Station and local governments have been trying to conserve the biodiversity and ecosystem since 2006. However, ecosystem properties such as non-linearity and alternative stable states make the conservation to be limited. In this talk, I will review the current research findings, relate them to ecological theories, and introduce an ongoing transdisciplinary project that tries to conserve nature as well as local human communities.

