**Title:**

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**Abstract**

**Key words**: heterogeneity, desert rodents, patch preference

**Introduction**

Paragraph 1:

Paragraph 2:

Paragraph 3:

**Methods**

*Study System*

The Portal Project, started in 1977, is a long-term experimental system in the Chiricahua desert, near Portal, Arizona, USA.

*Patch Preference*

*Ecosystem Functioning*

**Results**

**Discussion**

**Acknowledgments**

**Figures**

**Literature Cited**