

Project Update: February 2008

We conducted our first field trip on February 2008. The capture effort was 900 night/traps. We sampled two different habitat types to compare mammal's diversity with habitat complexity. One habitat was dominated by the creosote bush *Larrea divaricata* accompanied by small shrubs, herbs and forbs. The other habitat was less complex and heterogeneous but had higher plant diversity, dominated by small shrubs.

A total of 22 small mammals were captured of two species: *Eligmodontia typus* and *Graomys griseoflavus*. *E. typus* dominates on the small shrubs habitat, and *G. griseoflavus* was present in less density. On creosote bush habitat, only *E. typus* was found. We also recorded signs of medium size mammals like *Microcavia australis*, *Dolichotis patagonum* and *Ctenomys mendocinus*.

