

# **Border Operations Sector Assessment**

South Texas  
Ranch Edition

**31 DEC 2014**

**REPORTING PERIOD:  
01 – 31 DEC 2014**



# TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY BORDER SECURITY OPERATIONS CENTER



The Rancher BOSA is a bi-monthly overview of drug, human smuggling and other criminal activity in south and west Texas. The purpose of this report is to inform ranch owners of emerging trend and relevant incidents.

South Texas Ranch Crime Index Total as of December 31, 2014: 16

The Rancher Crime index is comprised of rancher input of criminal traffic patterns occurring outside of main highways and roadways, and across ranch properties.

You may use the [Texas DPS iWatch](#) to report suspicious activities or behaviors that may indicate criminal or terrorist activity, such as Drug Smuggling, Human Smuggling, Oil Field Thefts, and other criminal activity. Every report will be reviewed by analysts. You may also contact DPS at 1-866-786-5972, or through the JOIC contacts listed below. To download iWatch, click on your appropriate operating system below.



## OPERATION BORDER STAR

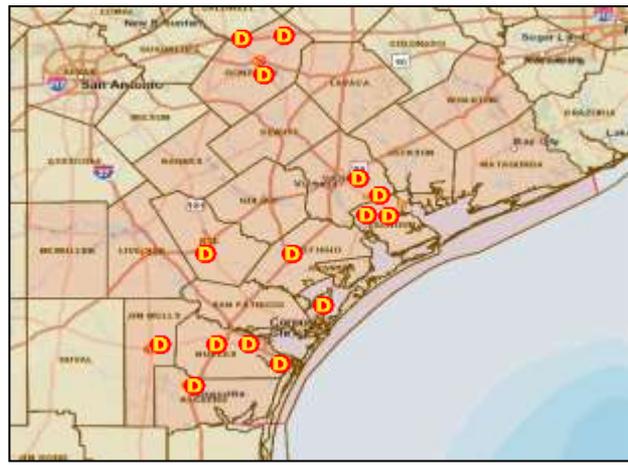
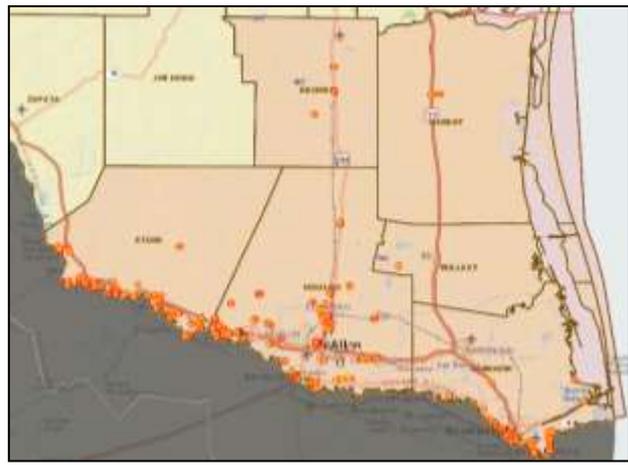
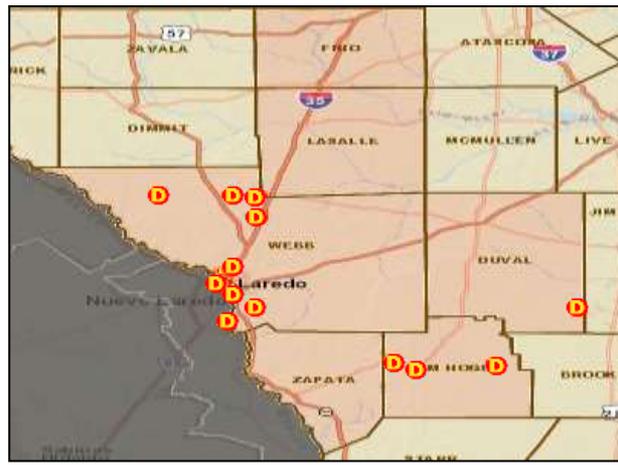
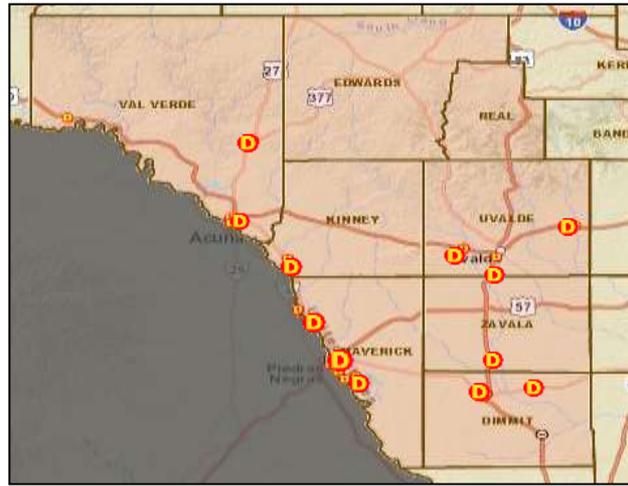
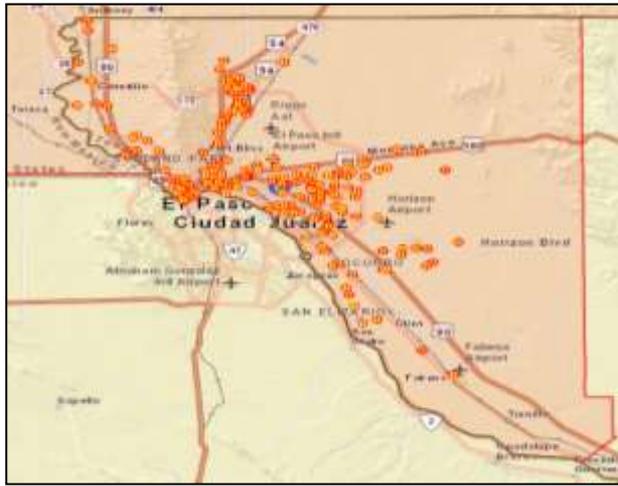
JOIC Contact Information	Border Security Ops Ctr (Austin, TX)	El Paso JOIC (El Paso, TX)	Big Bend JOIC (Marfa, TX)	Del Rio Sector (Del Rio, TX)	Laredo Sector (Laredo, TX)	Rio Grande Valley Sector (McAllen, TX)	Coastal Bend Sector (Victoria, TX)
Main Phone #	(512) 454-7561	(915) 680-6500	(432) 729-4506	(830) 778-7837	(956) 764-3181	(956) 289-5727	(361) 485-8500
Main Email	<a href="mailto:TBSOC@dps.texas.gov">TBSOC@dps.texas.gov</a>	<a href="mailto:joic.elpaso@dps.texas.gov">joic.elpaso@dps.texas.gov</a>	<a href="mailto:joic.marfa@dps.texas.gov">joic.marfa@dps.texas.gov</a>	<a href="mailto:joic.delrio@dps.texas.gov">joic.delrio@dps.texas.gov</a>	<a href="mailto:joic.laredo@dps.texas.gov">joic.laredo@dps.texas.gov</a>	<a href="mailto:joic.mcallen@dps.texas.gov">joic.mcallen@dps.texas.gov</a>	<a href="mailto:joic.victoria@dps.texas.gov">joic.victoria@dps.texas.gov</a>

# RANCHER BORDER OPERATIONS SECTOR ASSESSMENT

## 31 DEC 2014

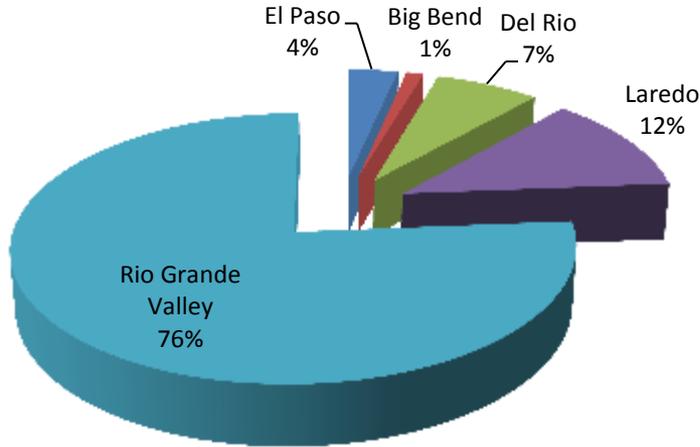


YTD-2014	El Paso	Marfa	Del Rio	Laredo	RGV	Coastal Bend	TOTAL	2014 Values
Marijuana (lbs)	89,725	29,886	29,791	147,734	815,624	9,949	1,122,708	\$568,090,248
Cocaine (lbs)	471	49	142	1,611	3,657	392	6,321	\$74,120,046
Meth (lbs)	502	54	74	1,299	2,614	71	4,613	\$55,010,025
Heroin (lbs)	249	33	9	192	119	1	603	\$10,648,980

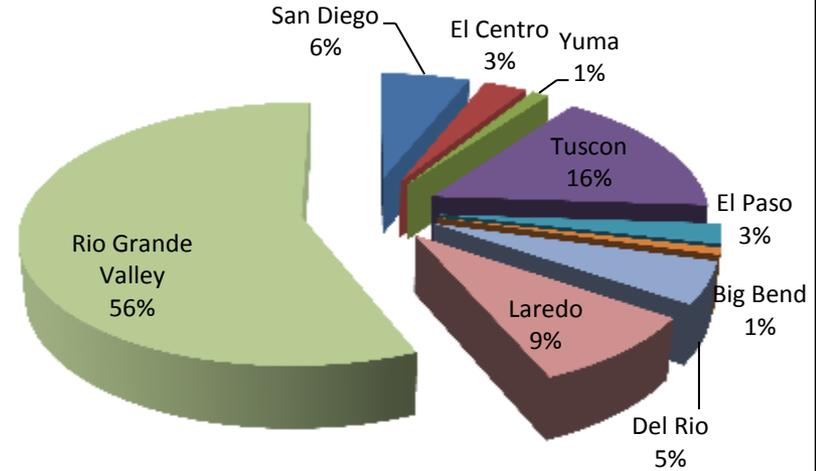




### Texas Sector Apprehensions



### Southwest Border Sector Apprehensions



IAs	El Paso	Marfa	Del Rio	Laredo	RGV	Coastal Bend	TOTAL
YTD-2014	12,179	2,567	22,332	34,922	241,100	0	313,100

OTMs	El Paso	Marfa	Del Rio	Laredo	RGV	Coastal Bend	TOTAL
YTD-2014	2,262	523	12,699	15,240	178,725	260	209,709

Unaccompanied Alien Children	FYTD-2014*	FY-2013	FY-2012	FY-2011
Texas Border	56,443	27,827	15,485	9,871

\* Indicates CBP reporting period of 10/01/2013 -08/31/2014

Falfurrias USBP Station is approximately 66 miles north of the border

Human smugglers circumvent inland U.S. Border Patrol checkpoints by easily walking around them through ranch and farmland. Since 2011, **420 illegal aliens** have perished in Brooks County.

# MARFA SECTOR



Sanderson USBP Agents seized **327.05 lbs of marijuana** abandoned near Candilla Canyon concealed in the brush. The marijuana was in seven green duffel bags, with seven bundles wrapped in cellophane.



Sanderson BP Agents arrested **four IAs** at a local ranch. One subject was wanted out of Bexar Co and three IAs were processed.

Sanderson USBP Agents seized **454.40 lbs of marijuana** on a local ranch. The ten IAs dropped the green military style duffel bags containing the marijuana upon contact with the Agents. Nine IAs absconded and **one IA** was arrested. The subject was detained.

Sierra Blanca USBP Agents recovered a 2014 gray Dodge Ram pickup, reported **stolen** from a ranch, following a vehicle pursuit. During the pursuit, shots were fired at the Agents. The subjects bailed out of the vehicle on another ranch and fired shots at the Agents again, before they absconded into the brush. A search was conducted, involving Van Horn USBP Agents, TPWD Game Wardens, Hudspeth Co SO Deputies, THP Troopers, CBP AVN and DPS AVN. One male subject, armed with **two pistols**, was shot multiple times and taken into custody. Two female subjects were apprehended.

Marfa USBP Agents arrested **five IAs** near a local ranch. The subjects were detained.

Jeff Davis Co SO detained **six IAs** in Fort Davis, TX, after receiving a call from a concerned citizen. The subjects were referred to Marfa USBP.

Marfa USBP Agents seized **232.3 lbs of marijuana**, and arrested **five IAs** at a ranch. The marijuana was in five backpacks wrapped in cellophane bricks.



# DEL RIO SECTOR



On 30 NOV 2014, a Zavala Co SO Deputy conducted a traffic stop on a red 2004 Ford F-250 pickup, when a pursuit ensued. The driver bailed out, after the vehicle crashed into the fence at a local ranch. USBP Agents detained the driver in front of a neighboring ranch and the driver was treated at the a hospital for injuries sustained in the crash. The vehicle was reported **stolen** out of San Antonio, TX.



View of truck after roll-over

On 06 DEC 2014, a Kinney Co SO Deputy assisted USBP Agents in the apprehension of two separate groups of IAs on a local ranch. A total of **seven IAs** were apprehended from both groups.



On 02 DEC 2014, a Dimmit Co SO Deputy conducted a traffic stop on a white 2014 Chevrolet Silverado K1500 pickup (rental vehicle), when a pursuit ensued. The vehicle drove through a ranch fence and the occupants bailed out. With assistance from CBP AVN, **two IAs** were detained. The vehicle was reported **stolen** from McKinney, TX.

On 16 DEC 2014, Dimmit Co SO Deputies and USBP Agents conducted a traffic stop on a red 2010 Ford Flex, when a pursuit ensued. The vehicle struck another vehicle, ran off the road, and struck a ranch fence. Several subjects bailed out and attempted to abscond.

All **11 IAs** subjects were detained.

On 06 DEC 2014, a citizen informed USBP Agents about suspicious objects on an orchard. The Agents located three white feed sacks, containing **205 lbs of marijuana**.



On 09 DEC 2014, USBP Agents on an orchard conducting a search of the area, located three military style duffel bags containing **157.69 lbs of marijuana**.

# DEL RIO SECTOR



On 04 DEC 2014, a USBP Agent conducted a traffic stop on a 1999 Dodge Durango on FM-1917, when a pursuit ensued. The vehicle drove off the road near a farm and all occupants, except for the driver, bailed out and absconded. A search was conducted with negative results. The driver was identified as the **alien smuggler**.

On 18 DEC 2014, a USBP Agent conducted a traffic stop on a black 2006 Chevrolet Malibu, leaving a ranch. When the vehicle stopped, three occupants bailed out and absconded. The Agent discovered a **handgun** located in the driver's side door compartment. The driver was released.



# LAREDO SECTOR

On 23 NOV 2014, The Laredo Sector BIC received a call regarding a ranch worker at a ranch property, who encountered five subjects suspected of being IAs. Two of the subjects were reportedly armed with what was described as **AK-47 assault rifles**. The caller stated the subjects demanded food and water, but did not threaten him with the weapons. The caller gave a description of the subjects and stated that they were carrying backpacks. Local, state and federal agencies combined in a search effort, but the subjects were never located.

On 03 DEC 2014, USBP Zapata Marine Unit Agents encountered an Argos vessel, near a local ranch, on the Rio Grande. The vessel banked on the MX side of the river, where two subjects bailed out and absconded. Agents discovered a **rifle** in the boat. The rifle and boat were seized.



# LAREDO SECTOR

On 03 DEC 2014, USBP Cotulla Agents conducted a traffic stop on a maroon 2006 Ford F-350 pickup. A pursuit ensued, resulting in a bailout on ranch property. Agents apprehended **eight IAs**, but the driver absconded. The pickup was reported **stolen** out of San Antonio, TX.

On 05 DEC 2014, USBP Hebbronville Agents discovered **432.04 lbs of abandoned marijuana** on a local ranch.



On 18 DEC 2014, USBP Hebbronville Agents seized **187.60 lbs of abandoned marijuana**, on a local lease, near Hebbronville, TX.



On 12 DEC 2014, USBP Hebbronville Agents responded to a report of a white 2003 Chevrolet Trailblazer loading up near Concepcion, TX. Agents located the vehicle and a pursuit ensued, resulting in a bailout on ranch property. Five subjects absconded into the brush. Agents discovered **502.65 lbs of marijuana** within the vehicle.



On 06 DEC 2014, USBP Hebbronville Agents conducted a traffic stop on a white 1998 Chevrolet Z-71 pickup near a local ranch, when a pursuit ensued. Agents apprehended **eight IAs** and seized **107.8 lbs of marijuana** from the vehicle.

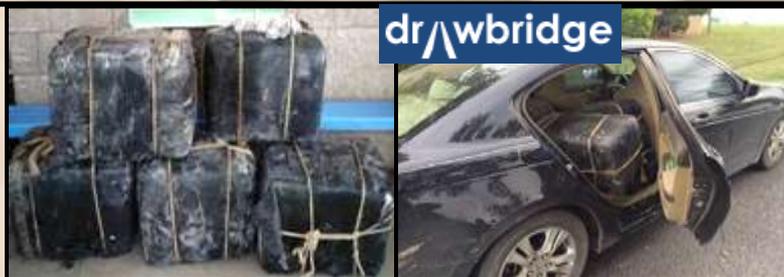


# LAREDO SECTOR



On 04 DEC 2014, USBP Laredo North Agents encountered a white 2010 Ford F-250 flatbed pickup near a local ranch. The driver bailed out and absconded. Agents discovered **1,170.51 lbs of marijuana** and **1.65 lbs of heroin** concealed throughout the vehicle.

On 16 DEC 2014, USBP Laredo North Agents responded to a **Drawbridge** camera activation near a local ranch. Agents discovered **413.08 lbs of marijuana** that had been loaded into a black 2008 Honda Civic. The driver was arrested.



On 16 DEC 2014, Laredo West Agents conducted a traffic stop on a pickup exiting a local ranch. The driver bailed out and absconded. Agents discovered **965.07 lbs of marijuana** inside the cab and within an aftermarket compartment under the bed. No arrests.



On 08 DEC 2014, USBP Laredo West Agents, acting on information, discovered five duffel bags containing **176.37 lbs of abandoned marijuana** on a local ranch.



On 10 DEC 2014, Webb Co SO Deputies conducted a traffic stop on a gray 2002 Ford F-150 pickup. A pursuit ensued, resulting in a bailout on a local ranch. **Two IAs** were apprehended at the scene.



# RIO GRANDE VALLEY



Weslaco USBP seized **355.34 lbs of marijuana** in a 1999 Honda Accord, at a local ranch. An **IA** was detained.

DPS AVN assisted TPWD Game Wardens with locating a **deceased body** floating in the Rio Grande. The Aircrew located the body and guided Game Wardens to the location.

A Hidalgo Co Constable Pct 4 Deputy was dispatched regarding **human remains** found. The body was found on a private ranch, along the fence line. An **IA** was located several miles away from the deceased and stated that he and the deceased were part of a group that bailed out, after being pursued by USBP.

Hidalgo Co Constable Pct 4 Deputies assisted USBP Agents with a pursuit and bailout, near a ranch. Upon driving through a ranch fence, Agents and Deputies detained **ten IAs** and recovered a 2003 GMC Envoy SUV.

Hidalgo Co Constable Pct 4 Deputy assisted USBP with a pursuit and bailout. The Deputy observed that a white Chevrolet pickup had driven through a ranch fence at a ranch. USBP Agents continued in a foot pursuit and detained **five IAs**.



Hidalgo Co Constable Pct 4 Deputy was dispatched to a local ranch, concerning several IAs who had been spotted. Deputies guided USBP Agents onto the ranch, while DPS AVN assisted in locating the IAs. A total of **14 IAs** were detained.

A Hidalgo Co Constable Pct 4 Deputy assisted USBP in a pursuit and bailout, on a local ranch. The Deputy notified the ranch manager of the incident. USBP recovered the driver of the pickup and CBP AVN assisted in locating IAs that the vehicle had dropped off near FM-3250. CBP AVN guided USBP Agents to the location of the IAs and **18 IAs** were located.



# RIO GRANDE VALLEY



Hidalgo Co Constable Pct 4 Deputies were dispatched to a local ranch in reference to a group of men that threatened the Ranch Manager; advising him to stop calling USBP Agents. The Ranch Manager stated that a lowered black Chevy pickup (without LPs) blocked him in, while driving, and threatened him verbally, before driving off. Deputies forwarded the information from the incident to USBP Agents. No other information is available at this time.



## COASTAL BEND SECTOR



Matagorda Co SO Deputies conducted a traffic stop on a **stolen** white 2006 Ford F-250 pickup, when a pursuit ensued. The vehicle drove through a ranch fence and several IAs bailed out and absconded. Deputies detained **two IAs**, who were released to a local church.



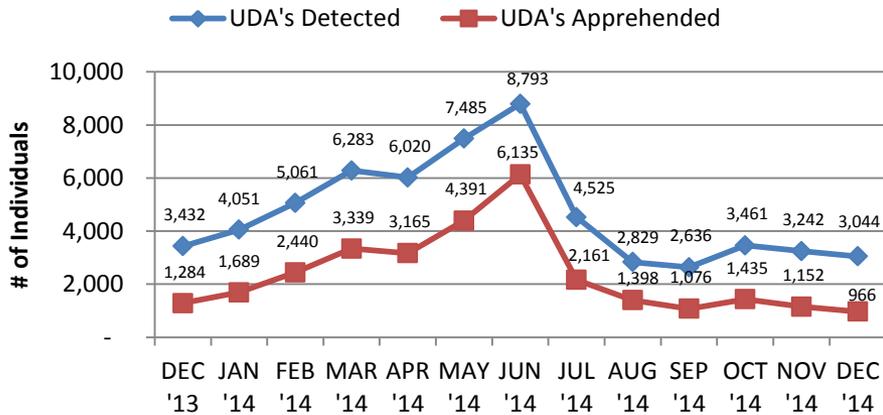
# Operation DRAWBRIDGE

## 2014 Weekly Statistics



### Statistical Summary: December 2014

#### Drawbridge Stats (13 months)



#### Drawbridge Initiated Marijuana Seizures



**Drawbridge  
2014 Totals**

**Detections: 58,217    Apprehensions: 29,351    Narcotics Seized: 88,463 lbs. (44.23 tons)**

#### OPERATION DRAWBRIDGE TOTALS: JAN 2012 - DEC 2014

<b>Detections</b>	<b>110,644</b>
<b>Apprehensions</b>	<b>52,304</b>
<b>Marijuana Seized</b>	<b>188,387 lbs. (94.19 tons)</b>
<b>Cocaine Seized</b>	<b>204 lbs.</b>
<b>Meth Seized</b>	<b>12 lbs</b>
<b>Firearms Seized</b>	<b>12 assault rifles / 7 handguns</b>



If any comments or questions arise from this product, please contact:

**TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY**

**BORDER SECURITY OPERATIONS CENTER**



TBSOC@dps.texas.gov  
Duty Phone: 512-424-7561  
Fax: 512-424-7041