

Border Operations Sector Assessment

South Texas
Ranch Edition

**August
2016**

**REPORTING PERIOD:
01-31 AUG 2016**



TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY BORDER SECURITY OPERATIONS CENTER



The Ranch BOSA is a 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 trends and relevant incidents.

South Texas Ranch Crime Index Total as of August 31, 2016: 34

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



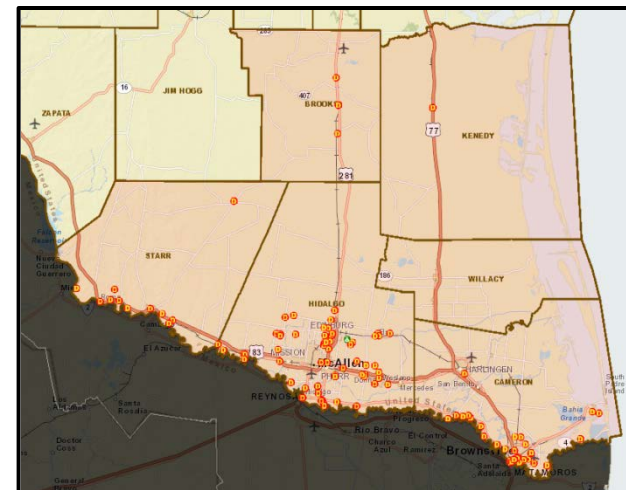
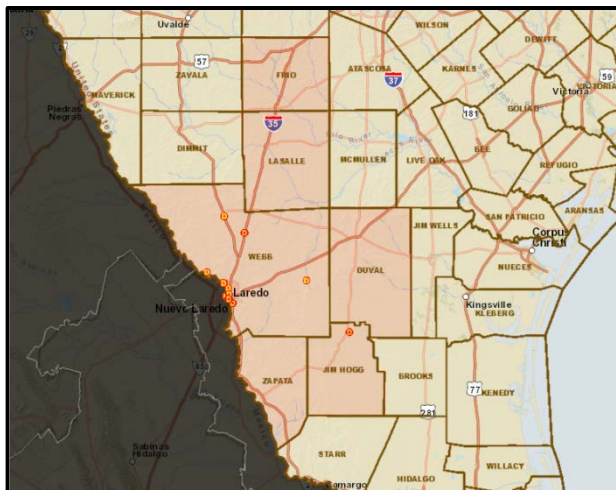
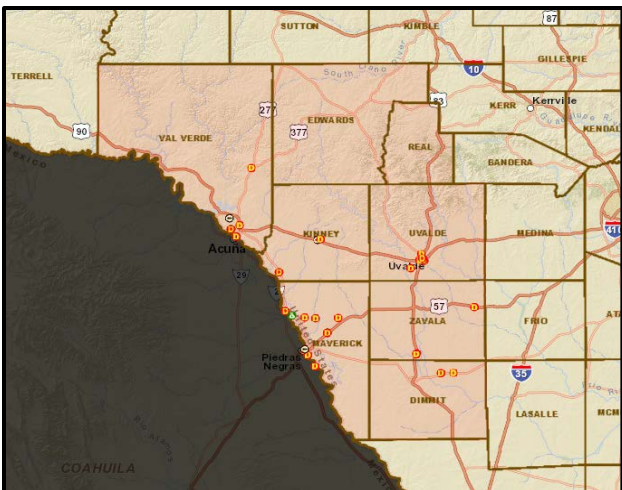
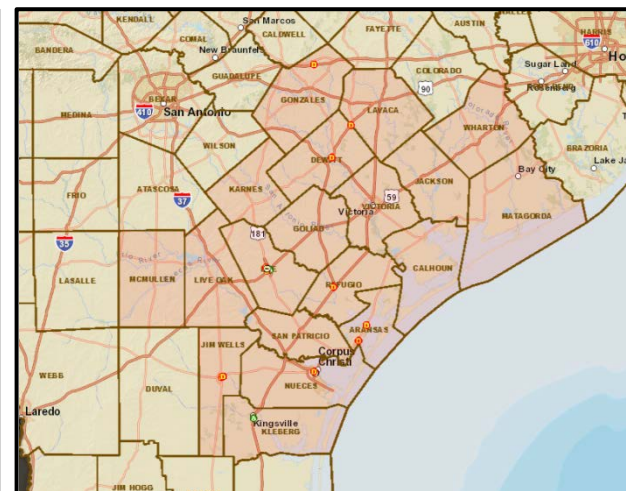
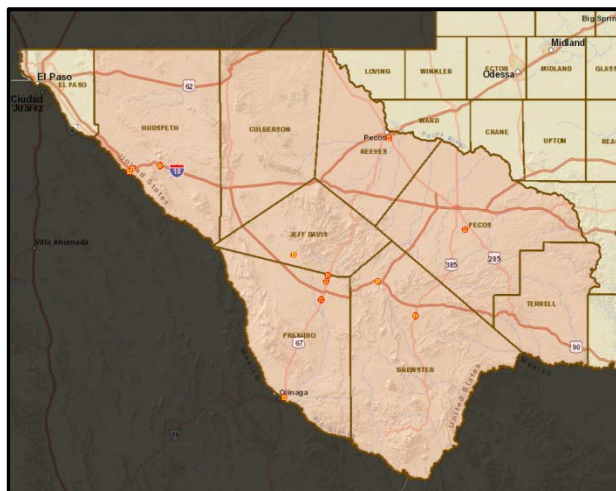
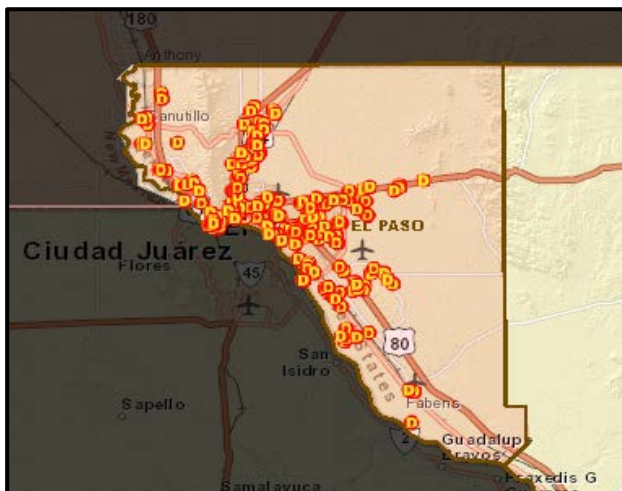
You may use the [Texas DPS iWatch](#) to report suspicious activities or behaviors that may indicate criminal or terrorist activity, such as drug smuggling, human smuggling, oil field thefts, and other criminal activity. Every report will be reviewed by analysts. You may also contact DPS at 1-866-786-5972, or through the JOIC contacts listed below.



OPERATION BORDER STAR

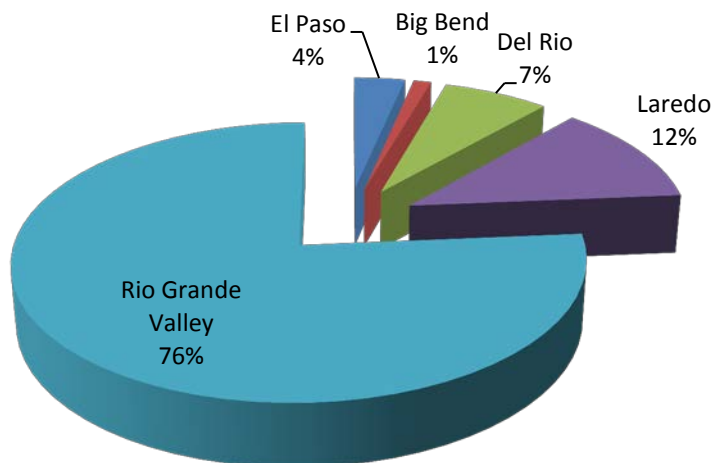
JOIC Contact Information	Border Security Ops Ctr (Austin)	El Paso JOIC (El Paso)	Big Bend JOIC (Marfa)	Del Rio Sector (Del Rio)	Laredo Sector (Laredo)	Rio Grande Valley Sector (McAllen)	Coastal Bend Sector (Victoria)
Main Phone #	(512) 454-7561	(915) 680-6500	(432) 729-4506	(830) 778-7837	(956) 764-3181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

CY To Date – 2016	El Paso	Marfa	Del Rio	Laredo	RGV	Coastal Bend	TOTAL	2014 ONDCP Adjusted Value (Approximate)
Marijuana (~lbs)	95,219	28,170	8,770	99,435	276,992	350	508,245	\$3 Billion
Cocaine (~lbs)	495	14	400	1,448	3950	780	7,087	\$436 Million
Methamphetamine (~lbs)	1,039	188	495	2,310	2,393	12	6,437	\$561 Million
Heroin (~lbs)	42	15	31	276	375	33	773	\$99 Million

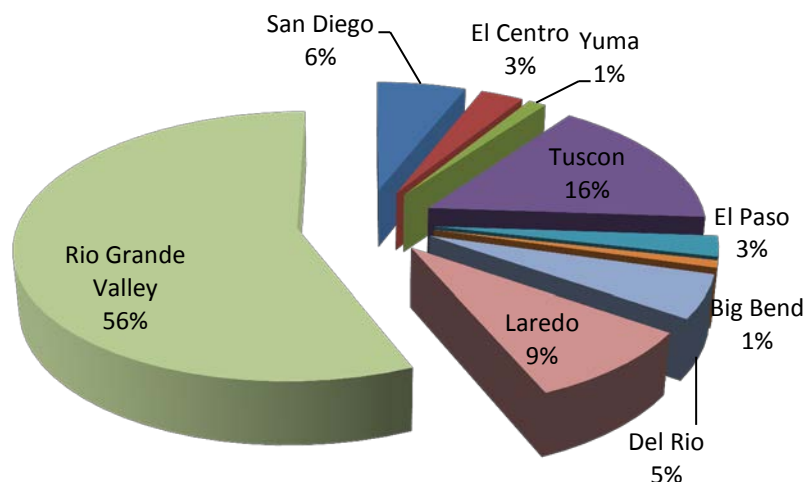




Texas Sector Apprehensions – CY 2014



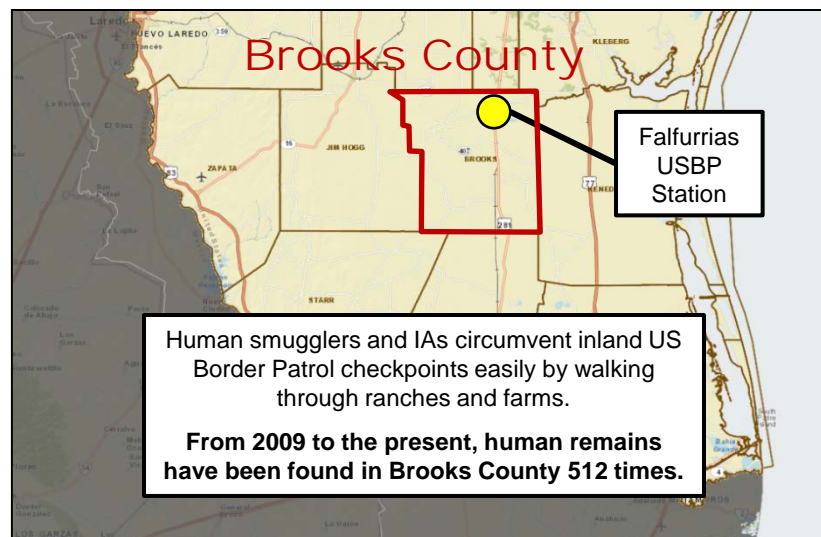
Southwest Border Sector Apprehensions – CY 2014



Illegal Aliens (IAs)	El Paso	Marfa	Del Rio	Laredo	RGV	Coastal Bend	TOTAL
YTD-2016	16,595	2,528	14,574	25,620	118,155	0	177,472

Other Than Mexicans (OTMs)	El Paso	Marfa	Del Rio	Laredo	RGV	Coastal Bend	TOTAL
YTD-2016	7,266	1,075	6,216	7,167	86,507	0	108,231

Unaccompanied Alien Children (UACs)	FY-2015	FY-2014	FY-2013	FY-2012	FY-2011
Texas Border	31,109	58,312	27,827	15,485	9,871



MARFA SECTOR

Based on a citizen's tip, Alpine USBP Agents arrested two USCs for human smuggling and seized a white 2007 Ford F-150 pickup and a gold 2005 Nissan pickup at the US-385 Checkpoint. USBP Agents, with K-9 assistance, arrested ten IAs who were crossing a nearby ranch in an attempt to circumvent the checkpoint. One of the IAs was identified as a foot guide for the group, and was also charged with human smuggling. All of the subjects were referred to Alpine HSI for prosecution.

Marfa USBP Agents arrested six IAs, including one juvenile IA, at a ranch northeast of Candelaria. Two subjects are being held pending prosecution, and five subjects, including the juvenile, were processed for removal.

Marfa USBP Agents arrested seven IAs at a ranch five miles southwest of Marfa. Three of the subjects were held in Sierra Blanca pending prosecution, and the other four were processed for removal.

MARFA SECTOR

Marfa USBP Agents arrested five IAs, including one juvenile, on a ranch northeast of Candelaria. One subject was held in Sierra Blanca pending prosecution, and the remaining four subjects were processed for removal.

Sanderson USBP Agents assisted by Alpine DPS Aviation, arrested eight IAs on a ranch south of Sanderson. The subjects are pending processing at this time.

Alpine USBP Agents arrested six IAs south of a ranch house in Reagan Canyon, near Marathon. One of the IAs admitted to being a human smuggler. The smuggler and one subject were referred to Alpine HSI, and the remaining four IAs were processed for removal.

DEL RIO SECTOR

On 02 AUG, USBP Agents conducted an inspection on a black 2013 Ford F-250 pickup near Valley Wells, when a pursuit ensued. The vehicle crashed through a ranch gate and was found abandoned. A registration check of the vehicle identified the vehicle as stolen from Austin.

On 26 AUG, a Uvalde Co SO Deputy conducted a traffic stop on a 2002 Ford F-250 pickup on FM-481, in Uvalde, when the vehicle sped through an accident scene and a pursuit ensued. The Deputy lost sight of the vehicle when it drove onto a ranch. Two occupants bailed out and absconded. The Deputy located the vehicle, and discovered 125.12 lbs of marijuana in the bed and a tool box. On 27 Aug, USBP Agents followed foot sign from the vehicle and discovered 214.76 lbs of abandoned marijuana in the brush. A total of 339.88 lbs of marijuana was seized by DEA, and the vehicle was impounded.

DEL RIO SECTOR

On 18 AUG, a USBP Agent conducted an inspection on a white 2014 Ford F-250 pickup on US-83 near Catarina, when a pursuit ensued. The vehicle was located on Diamond H Road after the driver bailed out and absconded.

The vehicle was reported stolen out of Hondo. A Dimmit Co SO Deputy impounded the vehicle pending disposition.

On 10 AUG, USBP Agents discovered six abandoned duffel bags containing 341.50 lbs of marijuana on a ranch in Quemado. The marijuana was seized and turned over to the DEA.

On 25 AUG, USBP Agents responded to an alert on a ranch near Eagle Pass. The Agents apprehended an IA, and discovered seven duffel bags containing 417.70 lbs of marijuana. The IA was processed, and turned over to DEA with the marijuana.

On 16 AUG, a Dimmit Co SO Deputy conducted a traffic stop on a white 2015 Ford F-150 pickup on SH-85 near Carrizo Springs, when a pursuit ensued. The vehicle drove onto a ranch near FM-190 and Brundage, and the occupant bailed out and absconded. The vehicle, which was reported stolen out of San Antonio, was impounded.

DEL RIO SECTOR

On 24 AUG, a Dimmit Co SO Deputy conducted a traffic stop on a 2006 Ford F-350 pickup on SH-85, in Big Wells, when a pursuit ensued. The vehicle drove onto a ranch, and multiple subjects bailed out and absconded. USBP Agents searched the area and apprehended 11 IAs.



LAREDO SECTOR

On 02 AUG, Laredo USBP Agents observed a 2004 Ford Explorer turning into a ranch in Laredo. The vehicle came to stop, and the driver and passenger bailed out and fled into the nearby brush. The Agents found 301.04 lbs of marijuana in the vehicle. The driver was located and apprehended. The driver and marijuana were turned over to DEA. The vehicle was seized by USBP.



On 09 Aug, Freer USBP Agents found an abandoned Chevrolet pickup on a ranch along Callahan Road near Freer. The vehicle was stolen from Laredo.

On 26 AUG, USBP Freer Agents conducted a traffic stop on a black 2015 Ford F-350 pickup near Freer, when a pursuit ensued. The vehicle crashed through a fence, and several subjects bailed out and absconded. The vehicle was stolen from San Antonio.

RIO GRANDE VALLEY



DPS AVN observed a stolen vehicle parked in an orange grove in southwestern Hidalgo County. AVN then assisted Hidalgo Co SO with a pursuit in which the vehicle ran through intersections, nearly causing several crashes. The driver attempted to hide the vehicle behind a gas station, but then abandoned it and fled. AVN guided the pursuing Deputies to the area, and the driver was arrested.

DPS AVN assisted USBP Agents and THP Troopers with locating a group of IAs near La Grulla. AVN located several IAs running through a sugarcane field. AVN maintained visual contact and guided USBP Agents and THP Troopers to the area, where five IAs were apprehended.



RIO GRANDE VALLEY



DPS AVN assisted USBP with IAs who bailed out of a vehicle off of Iowa Road. Nine subjects were found near the bailout location, and an additional two fled south into an orchard. After a search of the orchard, the two IAs were apprehended by Agents on the ground.

RIO GRANDE VALLEY



A Brooks Co SO Deputy was dispatched to a ranch in central Brooks County regarding a deceased person found on the property. An ID card, \$2 USD, and a 20-peso note were in a wallet found nearby.

A Brooks Co SO Deputy was dispatched to a ranch in northeast Brooks County regarding human remains. A cell phone and a Honduran ID card were found nearby.

A Starr Co SO Deputy was dispatched to a property regarding a deceased person found near the border in Starr County. The Deputy met with the USBP Agent who had discovered the body. Identification revealed that the deceased was a Mexican citizen.

RIO GRANDE VALLEY

A Brooks Co SO Deputy was dispatched to a ranch in northeast Brooks county regarding a deceased person found on the property. The body was almost skeletal, and a Guatemalan ID card was found by it.



A Brooks Co SO Deputy was dispatched to a ranch in central Brooks County regarding a deceased person. The Deputy and Judge were met by a UBSP Agent and taken to the body. A search of the body revealed a Honduran ID.

RIO GRANDE VALLEY



A Brooks Co SO Deputy responded to a ranch in central Brooks County regarding skeletal remains.



A Brooks Co SO Deputy responded to a ranch in Central Brooks County regarding skeletal remains. The Deputy made contact with a USBP Agent, who took him to the remains.

A Brooks Co Deputy responded to a ranch in northern Brooks County and made contact with a USBP Agent who had reported skeletal remains. The Deputy recovered a human skull and a tibia or femur bone. The remains were bagged and taken to Brooks Co SO, and secured to await the pronouncement of the time of death.

COASTAL BEND SECTOR

On 11 AUG, a McMullen Co SO Deputy conducted a traffic stop on a 2012 Dodge Ram pickup on SH-16 and FM 624, when a pursuit ensued. The vehicle escaped by driving through a ranch. The vehicle was reported stolen. No arrests were made.

On 25 AUG, a Live Oak Co SO Deputy conducted a traffic stop on a gray 2011 Chevrolet crew cab pickup CR-151 and FM-799, when a pursuit ensued, resulting in the vehicle crashing through a fence and coming to a stop. Two subjects bailed out of the vehicle and absconded. The vehicle was identified as stolen.





2014–Present	El Paso	Marfa	Del Rio	Laredo	Rio Grande Valley	Coastal Bend	TOTAL
Pursuits	3	58	440	256	1,239	533	2,529
Bailouts	0	67	591	364	1,156	486	2,664





OPERATION DRAWBRIDGE

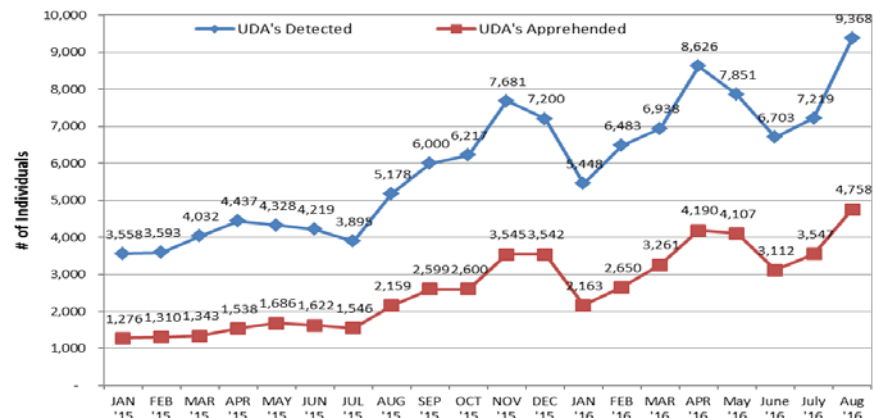
Statistical Summary – AUG 2016



Drawbridge Initiated Marijuana Seizures



Drawbridge Stats



OPERATION DRAWBRIDGE TOTALS: JAN 2012 – AUG 2016

Detections	229,710
Apprehensions	105,138
Marijuana Seized	358,362 lbs (~179 tons)
Cocaine Seized	249 lbs
Meth Seized	17 lbs
Heroin Seized	2 lbs
Firearms Seized	27

OPERATION DRAWBRIDGE TOTALS: CYTD 2016

Detections	58,636
Apprehensions	27,788
Narcotics Seized	51,409 lbs (~26 tons)



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

