

Border Operations Sector Assessment

South Texas
Ranch Edition

**October
2016**

**REPORTING PERIOD:
01-31 OCT 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 October 31, 2016: 39

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



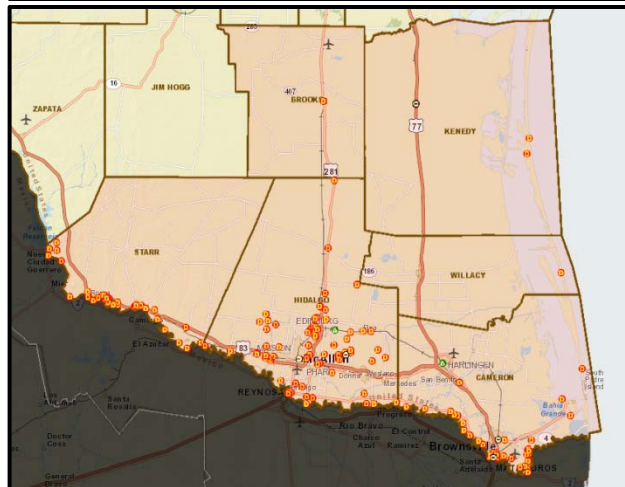
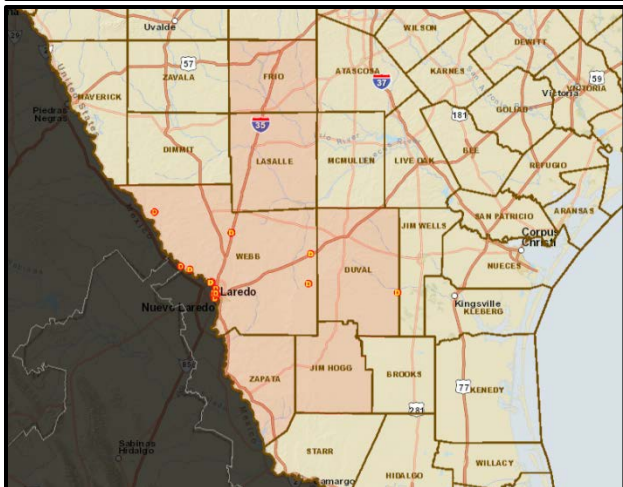
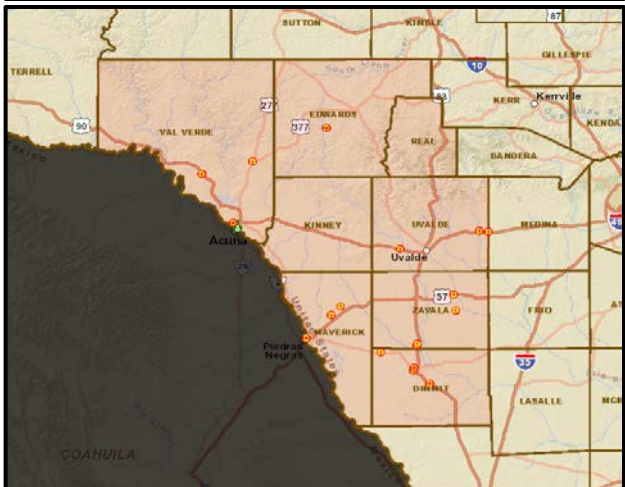
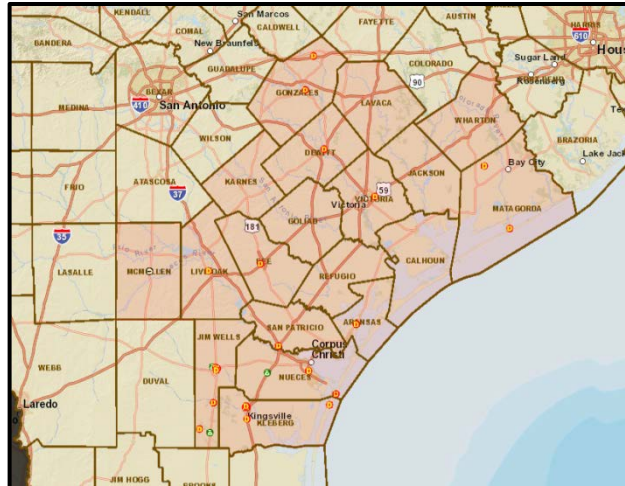
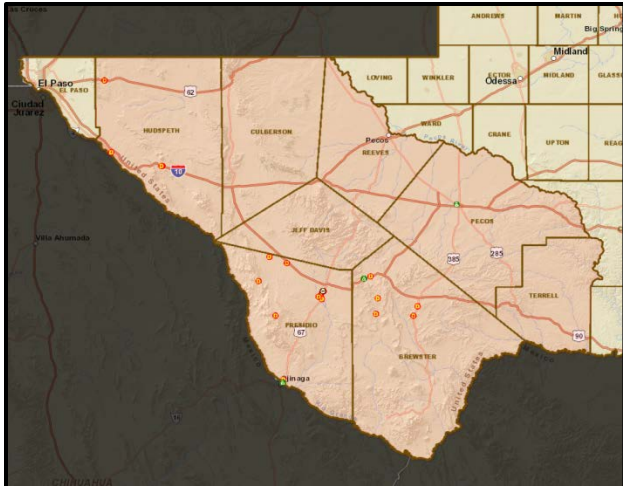
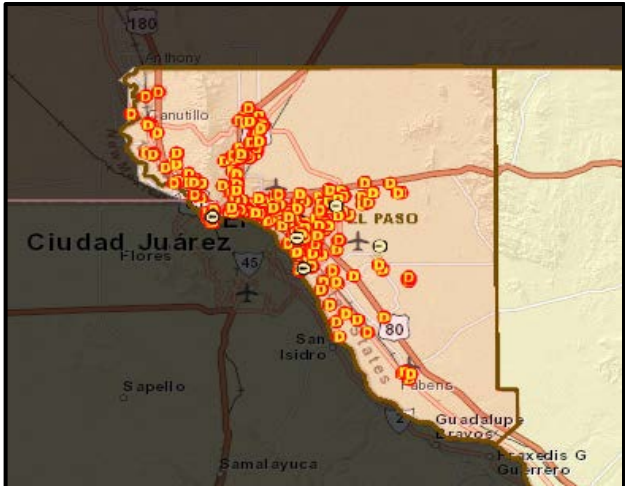
You may use the [Texas DPS iWatch](#) to report suspicious activities or behaviors that may indicate criminal or terrorist activity, such as drug smuggling, human smuggling, oil field thefts, and other criminal activity. Every report will be reviewed by analysts. You may also contact DPS at 1-866-786-5972,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



OPERATION BORDER STAR

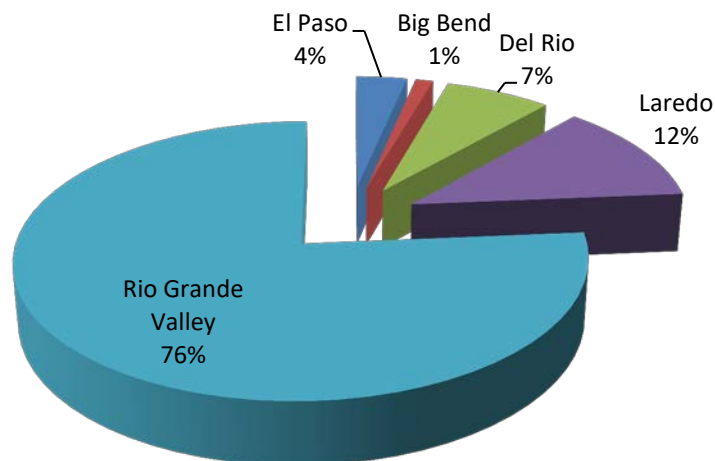
JOIC Contact Information	Border Security Ops Ctr (Austin)	El Paso JOIC (El Paso)	Big Bend JOIC (Marfa)	Del Rio Sector (Del Rio)	Laredo Sector (Laredo)	Rio Grande Valley Sector (McAllen)	Coastal Bend Sector (Victoria)
Main Phone #	(512) 454-7561	(915) 680-6500	(432) 729-4506	(830) 778-7837	(956) 764-3181	(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)	107,666	38,372	10,115	107,625	313,707	677	578,163	\$3.5 Billion
Cocaine (~lbs)	611	20	400	1,557	4,787	832	8,206	\$504 Million
Methamphetamine (~lbs)	1,418	239	572	2,590	2,973	159	7,952	\$693 Million
Heroin (~lbs)	42	15	31	319	470	33	910	\$117 Million

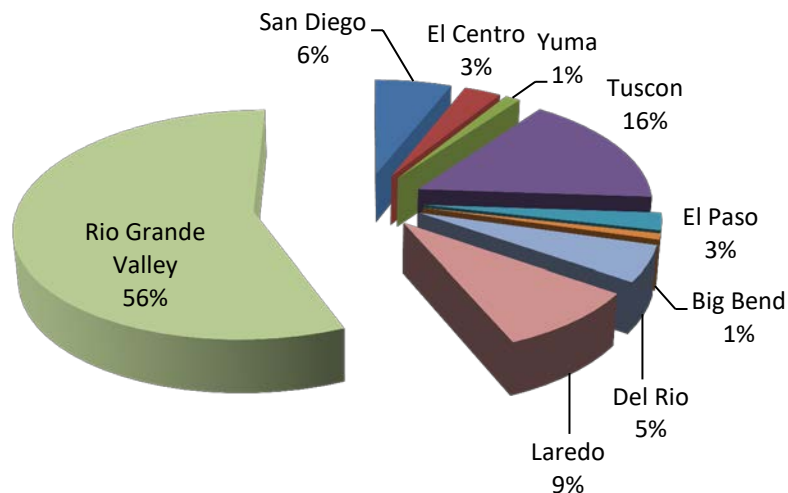




Texas Sector Apprehensions – CY 2014



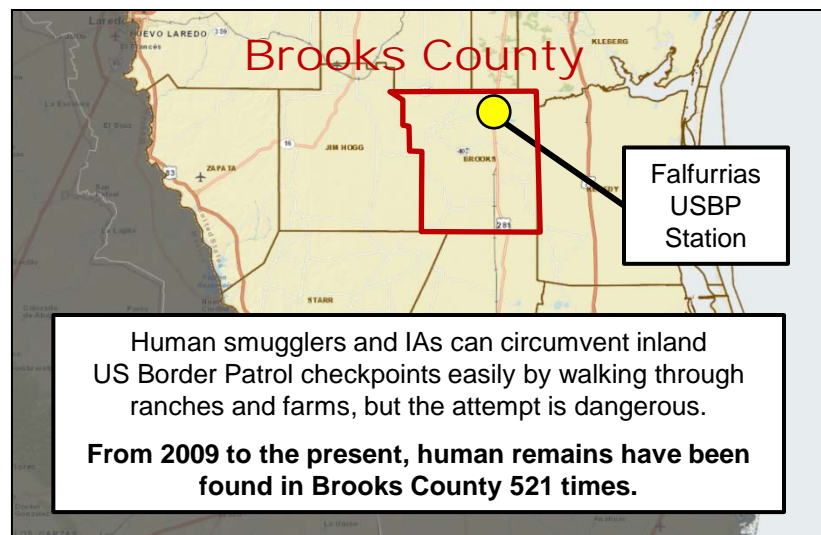
Southwest Border Sector Apprehensions – CY 2014



Illegal Aliens (IAs)	El Paso	Marfa	Del Rio	Laredo	RGV	Coastal Bend	TOTAL
YTD-2016	22,652	3,454	18,185	31,809	155,439	0	231,539

Other Than Mexicans (OTMs)	El Paso	Marfa	Del Rio	Laredo	RGV	Coastal Bend	TOTAL
YTD-2016	10,733	1,608	7,960	9,229	115,293	0	144,823

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

Marfa USBP Agents seized 360.50 lbs of marijuana and detained four IAs south of the US-67 Checkpoint. Agents observed a white 2010 Dodge pickup stop on US-67, south of the Checkpoint. Approximately seven subjects got out of the vehicle with large bags. The subjects then jumped a fence on the west side of the highway. The IA driver of the pickup was subsequently apprehended driving south on US-67, and three IA subjects were discovered hiding in the brush with the marijuana near the drop-off area. The other subjects were not located. The marijuana consisted of 119 cellophane-wrapped bricks within six large sugar sacks. The subjects and the marijuana were referred to Alpine DEA.



MARFA SECTOR

Marfa USBP Agents arrested eight IAs on a ranch road near Valentine.

Three of the subjects were referred to Presidio HSI for further investigation. One of the remaining subjects was held in Sierra Blanca pending prosecution, and the other four were processed for removal.

Marfa USBP Agents, assisted by USBP AVN, detained 13 IAs, including one juvenile, near a ranch headquarters south of Valentine.

Four subjects were held in Sierra Blanca pending prosecution, and the remaining nine subjects were processed for removal.

Marfa USBP Agents apprehended 18 IAs on a ranch near Fort Davis. One subject was held in Sierra Blanca pending prosecution, and the status of the remaining seventeen is pending.

Marfa USBP Agents, with the assistance of CBP AVN, seized 301.40 lbs of marijuana and detained five IAs on a ranch near Candelaria.

The marijuana consisted of 260 cellophane-wrapped bricks in five large sugar sacks. The subjects and marijuana were referred to Alpine DEA for federal prosecution.



MARFA SECTOR

DPS AVN assisted USBP Agents in finding five IAs in a ranch area near Marathon. The subjects were found hiding in the brush. DPS AVN was later called back to assist with a search and rescue mission for another subject who was injured and had been left behind by the other IAs in the group. The subject, who was incapacitated, was found on a mountain ridgetop. He was rescued by DPS AVN and taken to USBP Agents/Medics. The disposition of the six IAs is pending.



DEL RIO SECTOR

On 03 OCT, a Dimmit Co SO Deputy conducted a traffic stop on a white 2011 Ford F-150 pickup and a white 2008 BMW 528i, that were travelling in tandem on FM 186, near Carrizo Springs, when a pursuit ensued. The pickup drove through the a ranch fence, and the driver bailed out and absconded. The pickup was reported stolen out of San Antonio. A USBP Agent conducted an inspection on the car. The occupants stated that they were scouting for the pickup. The occupants and vehicle were released.



On 04 OCT, a Zavala Co SO Deputy conducted a traffic stop on a green 2003 Chevrolet Tahoe, when a pursuit ensued. The vehicle drove through a ranch fence on US-57 in La Pryor and continued through the ranch. USBP Agents arrived on the scene to assist, but the vehicle was not located.

DEL RIO SECTOR

On 05 OCT, a USBP Agent conducted an inspection on a black 2015 Ford F-350 pickup with false plates on SH-85, when a pursuit ensued. The vehicle drove through a ranch fence off FM 1019 near Big Wells, and the driver bailed out and absconded. The vehicle was reported stolen out of San Antonio and was impounded by Dimmit Co SO pending disposition.

On 07 OCT, a Dimmit Co SO Deputy conducted a traffic stop on a black 2015 Ford F-250 pickup that was observed picking up multiple subjects on FM 2688, near Catarina. A pursuit ensued, and the vehicle drove across US-83, then through a ranch fence, where the occupants bailed out and absconded. The vehicle was reported stolen from San Antonio.



DEL RIO SECTOR



Back Seat Removed



On 07 OCT, a Dimmit Co SO Deputy conducted a traffic stop on a white 2000 Chevrolet Silverado C2500 pickup on FM 186 in Carrizo Springs, when a pursuit ensued. The vehicle drove through a ranch fence near FM 1557, and the occupants bailed out and absconded. The vehicle, which was not reported stolen, was impounded pending disposition.

On 07 OCT, a USBP Agent conducted an inspection on a white 2003 Ford F-150 pickup on FM 395 in Crystal City, when a pursuit ensued. The vehicle drove through a fence and onto a ranch. The occupants bailed out and absconded. The vehicle was not reported stolen at the time, and was impounded pending disposition.

DEL RIO SECTOR

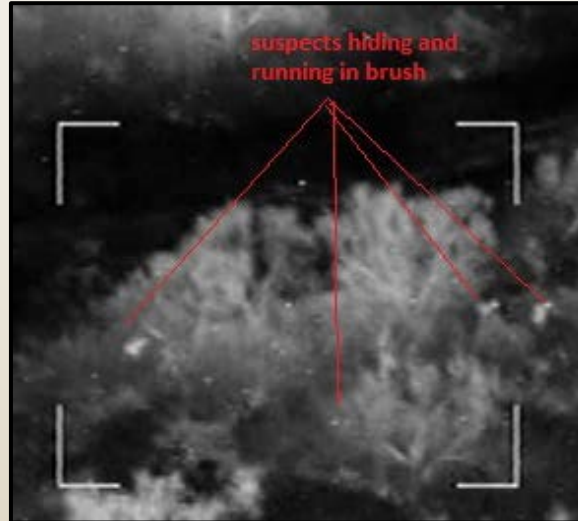
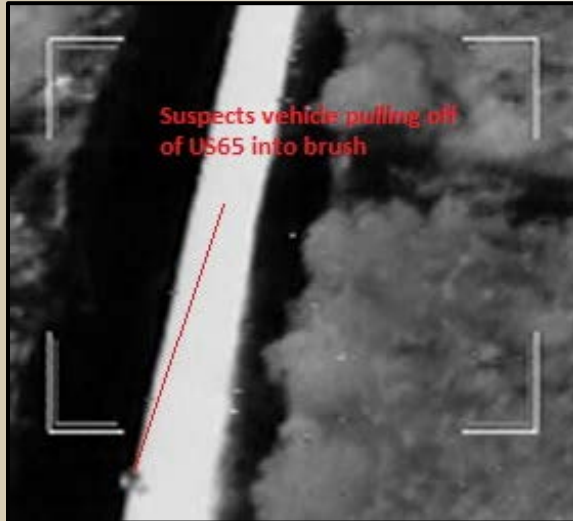
On 13 OCT, a USBP Agent observed a subject in a gold 2011 Jeep Grand Cherokee pick up a subject at a gas station on US-90 near Brackettville. The Agent conducted a traffic stop on RR 674, when a pursuit ensued. The Jeep crashed through the main gate of a ranch, and the occupants bailed out. CBP AVN and Kinney Co SO assisted with the search. CBP AVN was able to locate one USC alien smuggler and two IAs hiding in the brush. The USC was the passenger in the Jeep and is a Tango Orejon gang member. The USC driver was later located on RR 674. The subject was arrested, and he was identified as the alien smuggler. The IAs were processed per Sector guidelines.

On 12 OCT, a USBP Agent conducted an inspection on a green 2002 Chevrolet Silverado pickup on FM 186 near Carrizo Springs, when a pursuit ensued. The vehicle drove through a ranch fence, and the occupants bailed out. The Agent detained six IAs, but the driver absconded. The IAs were processed per Sector guidelines, and the vehicle was impounded pending disposition.

On 15 OCT, a USBP Agent detained an IA on a ranch in Del Rio. On the subject, the Agent discovered a fraudulent Social Security card with a different name. A records check revealed the number was legitimate, but the name was incorrect. The card was seized, and the IA was arrested for illegal entry.

DEL RIO SECTOR

On 16 OCT, DPS AVN received a report from HSI-ICE of a load vehicle that was smuggling IAs or narcotics to San Antonio. A Dimmit Co SO Deputy conducted a traffic stop on the vehicle, a rented white 2016 Dodge Ram 2500 pickup, on US-83 near Carrizo Springs, when a pursuit ensued. The vehicle drove through a ranch fence near FM 65 in Brundage, and the occupants bailed out. DPS AVN assisted the Deputy and USBP Agents with the detention of nine IAs, but the driver absconded. The IAs were processed per Sector guidelines, and the vehicle was impounded pending disposition.



DEL RIO SECTOR

On 16 OCT, a USBP Agent conducted an inspection on a blue 2016 Ford F-250 pickup with a false paper tag on FM 1025 near Crystal City, when a pursuit ensued. The vehicle drove through a ranch fence, and the driver bailed out and absconded. The vehicle, which was reported stolen out of San Antonio, was impounded by a Zavala Co SO Deputy pending disposition.

On 18 OCT 2016, a USBP Agent conducted an inspection on a white 2006 Ford F-250 pickup on FM 1025 in Batesville, when a pursuit ensued. Several subjects bailed out onto a ranch on FM 187 in Zavala County. A search of the vehicle resulted in the seizure of 342.40 lbs of marijuana. A USBP K-9 team responded to assist, and an IA was apprehended and identified as a Paisas gang member. The subject was turned over to DEA with the marijuana.

On 22 OCT, a Zavala Co SO Deputy responded to a ranch southwest of La Pryor regarding a subject who had been found asleep in one of the ranch sheds. A USBP Agent identified the subject as an IA and processed him per Sector guidelines.

LAREDO SECTOR



On 03 OCT, USBP Hebbronville Agents responded to a report of a vehicle on a property in Hebbronville. The Agents found a 2008 Ford F-150 pickup and seized 408.30 lbs of marijuana. The marijuana was turned over to the DEA, and the vehicle was seized.

On 25 OCT, USBP Cotulla Agents were dispatched to a ranch near Cotulla for an abandoned 2013 Ford F-150 pickup. The vehicle was reported stolen from Austin.

RIO GRANDE VALLEY



Brooks Co SO Deputy responded to a ranch in central Brooks County regarding a deceased person. USBP escorted the Deputy to the location. The JP pronounced the person deceased.

A Brooks Co SO Deputy responded to a ranch in northeast Brooks County regarding a skeletal remains. USBP escorted the Deputy to the remains, which were scattered around a tree.



RIO GRANDE VALLEY

A Brooks Co SO Deputy responded to a ranch in northern Brooks County regarding USBP Agents who had discovered a deceased person. The Deputy and a justice of the peace were escorted to the body. An identification card was found with the body, which was turned over to a funeral home.



A Brooks Co SO Deputy responded to a ranch on the northern edge of Brooks County regarding skeletal remains. The Deputy made contact with USBP Agents and the ranch foreman. The Agent advised the Deputy that the remains were found by a USBP AVN while tracking a group of IAs. An identification card was found near the remains.

A mortuary took custody of the remains.



RIO GRANDE VALLEY

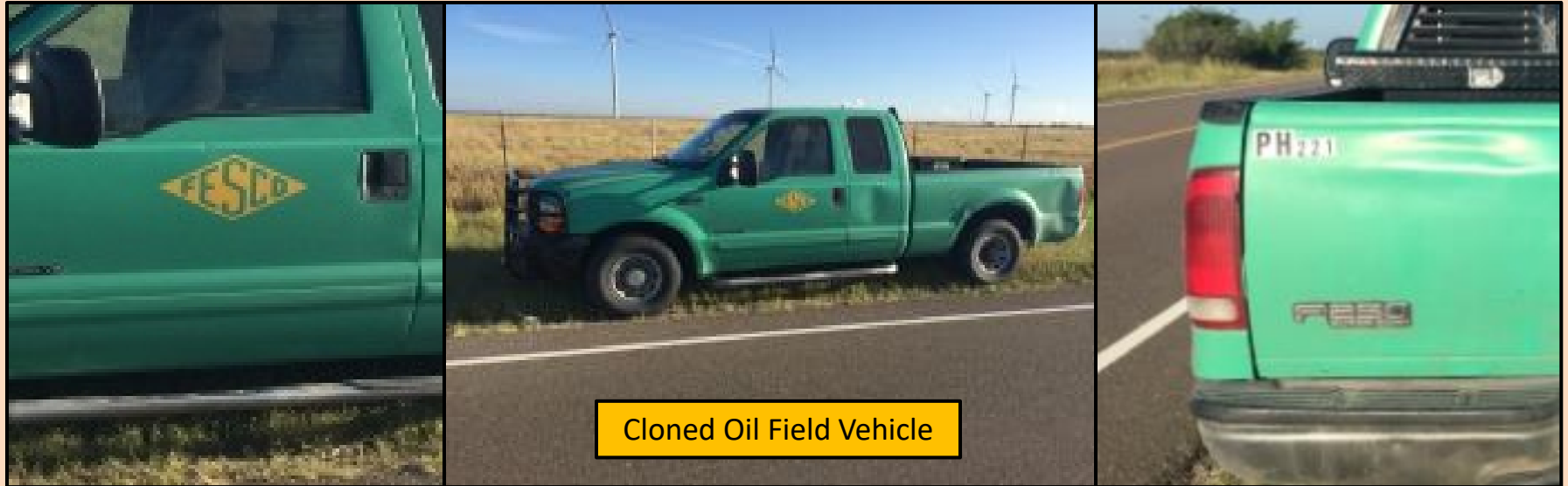
A Brooks Co SO Deputy was dispatched to a ranch in central Brooks County regarding skeletal remains scattered in a wooded area. The remains were placed in a body bag and taken to the Brooks Co SO before being transported to the medical examiner's office in Laredo.



A Brooks Co SO Deputy responded to a ranch in northern Brooks County regarding skeletal remains and transported a human skull to the medical examiner's office in Laredo.



RIO GRANDE VALLEY



A Starr Co SO Deputy responded to the report of an abandoned vehicle that had been cloned as a Fesco oil company vehicle. A Deputy made contact with a Fesco wireline manager who stated that he had noticed a Ford F-250 pickup with a false Fesco logo on the side of the road. The vehicle was not one of his company vehicles: the logo and vehicle color were incorrect, it had a tailgate (which Fesco trucks lack), and it did not have the standard company equipment attached. The manager also noted that the numbers attached to the vehicle were not related to Fesco in any way. The vehicle was impounded.



Total Pursuits and Bailouts (2014-Present)*

Event	El Paso	Marfa	Del Rio	Laredo	Rio Grande Valley	Coastal Bend	TOTAL
Pursuits	3	63	467	265	1,278	538	2,614
Bailouts	0	72	615	372	1,188	491	2,738

** Totals include all incidents reported by the JOICs, not merely those that are ranch-related*





OPERATION DRAWBRIDGE

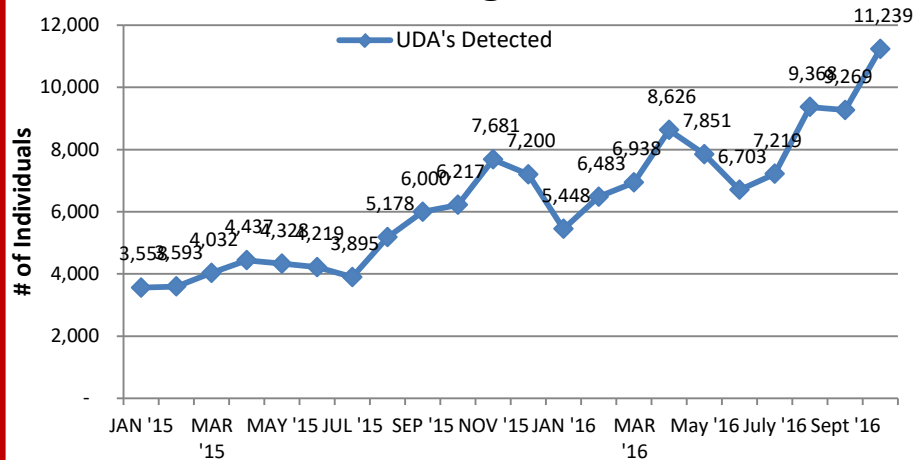
Statistical Summary – OCT 2016



Drawbridge Initiated Marijuana Seizures



Drawbridge Stats



OPERATION DRAWBRIDGE TOTALS: JAN 2012 – OCT 2016

Detections	250,218
Marijuana Seized	366,941 lbs (~183 tons)
Cocaine Seized	249 lbs
Meth Seized	17 lbs
Heroin Seized	2 lbs
Firearms Seized	31

OPERATION DRAWBRIDGE TOTALS: CYTD 2016

Detections	79,144
Narcotics Seized	59,988 lbs (~30 tons)



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

TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY
BORDER SECURITY OPERATIONS CENTER



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