

Border Operations Sector Assessment

South Texas
Ranch Edition

**December
2016**

**REPORTING PERIOD:
01-31 DEC 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 December 31, 2016: 42

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.



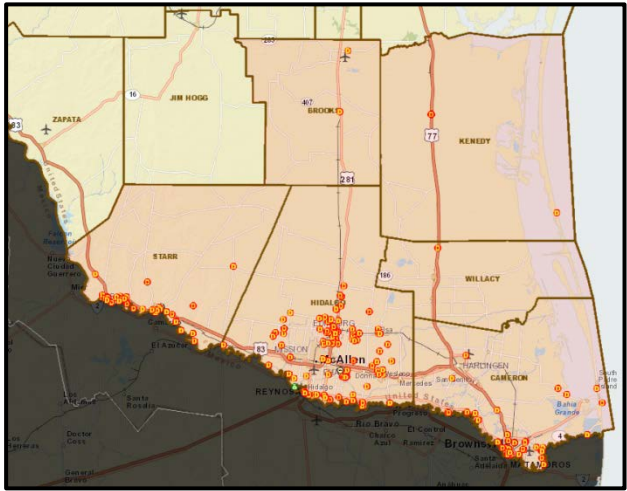
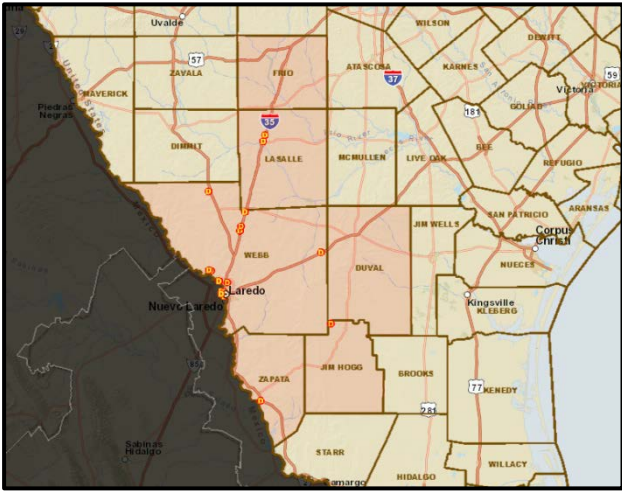
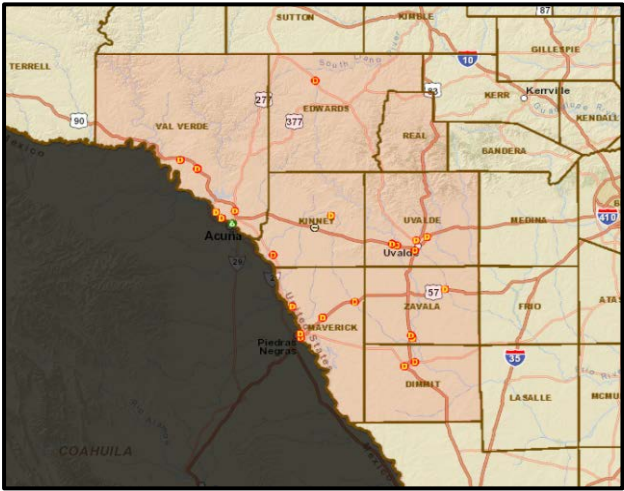
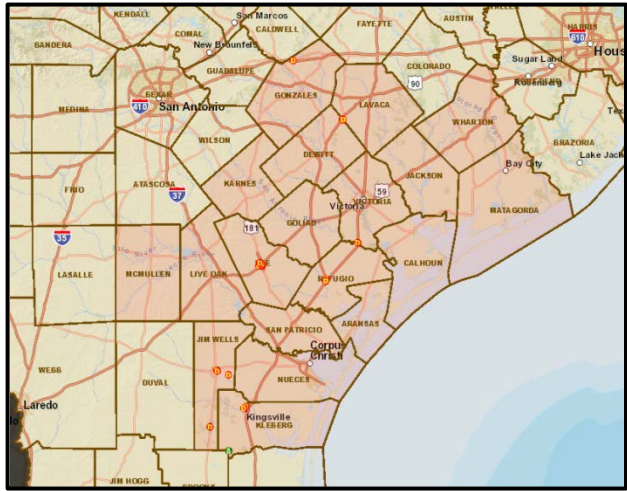
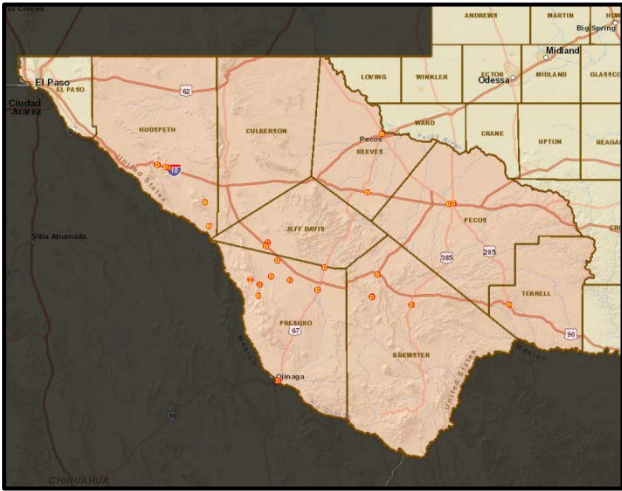
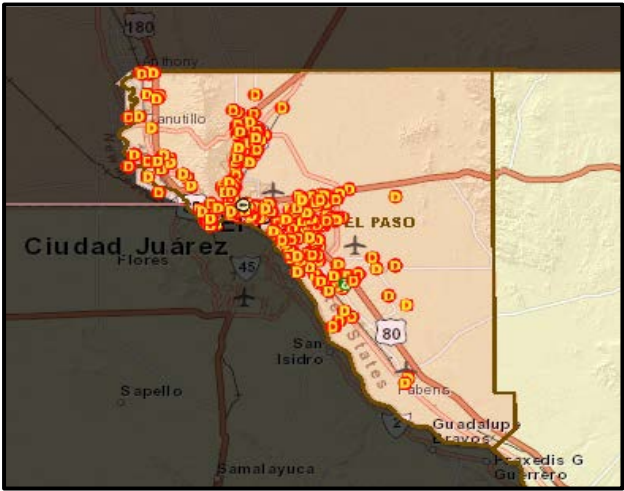
OPERATION BORDER STAR

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

Ranch Border Operations Sector Assessment

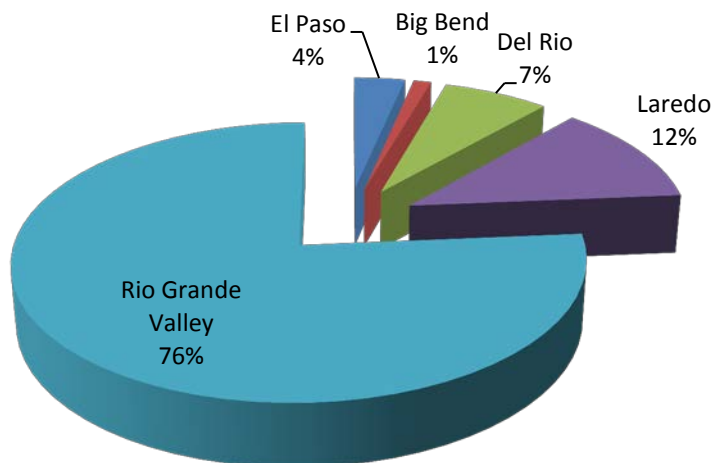


CY 2016	El Paso	Marfa	Del Rio	Laredo	RGV	Coastal Bend	TOTAL	2014 ONDCP Adjusted Value (Approximate)
Marijuana (~lbs)	121,903	49,066	12,738	124,863	370,642	918	680,129	\$4.1 Billion
Cocaine (~lbs)	717	30	400	2,112	5,374	833	9,467	\$582 Million
Methamphetamine (~lbs)	1,975	255	794	3,112	3,511	185	9,832	\$857 Million
Heroin (~lbs)	75	15	31	326	470	33	951	\$122 Million

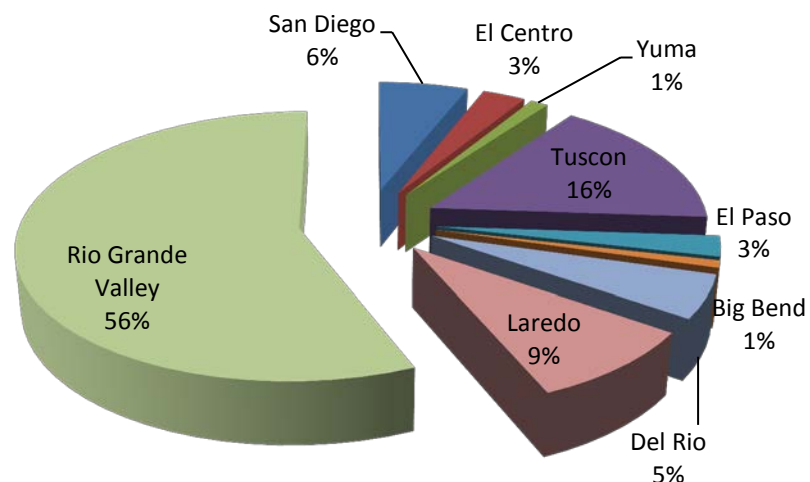




Texas Sector Apprehensions – CY 2014



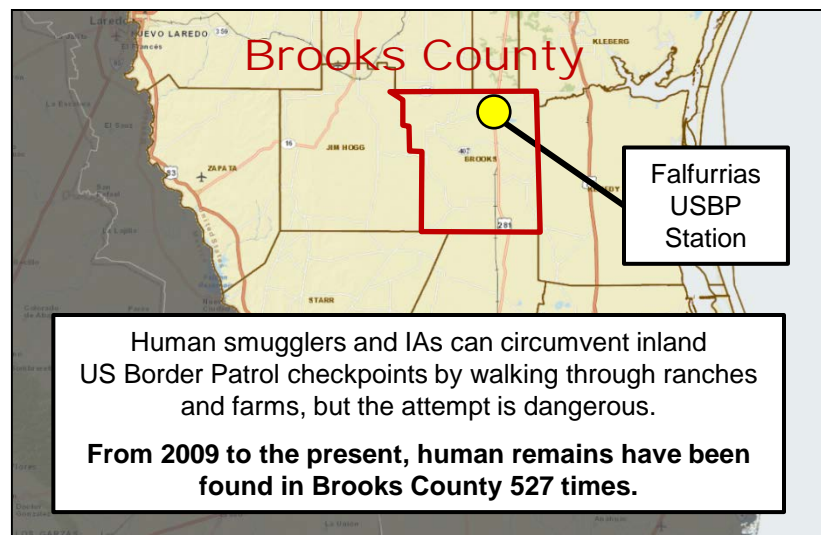
Southwest Border Sector Apprehensions – CY 2014



Illegal Aliens (IAs)	El Paso	Marfa	Del Rio	Laredo	RGV	Coastal Bend	TOTAL
YTD 2016	30,985	4,009	21,973	37,792	204,527	24	299,400

Other Than Mexicans (OTMs)	El Paso	Marfa	Del Rio	Laredo	RGV	Coastal Bend	TOTAL
YTD 2016	16,810	2,008	10,166	11,497	157,678	0	198,159

Unaccompanied Alien Children (UACs)	FY 2016	FY 2015	FY 2014	FY 2013	FY 2012
Texas Border	47,192	31,109	58,312	27,827	15,485



MARFA SECTOR

Marfa USBP Agents, assisted by CBP AVN, seized 253.35 lbs of marijuana and apprehended five IAs on a ranch near Candelaria. The marijuana consisted of 20 cellophane-wrapped bundles in five sugar-sack backpacks. The subjects and marijuana were referred to Alpine DEA.



Marfa USBP Agents assisted by CBP AVN seized 100.95 lbs of marijuana that had been abandoned on a ranch near Marfa. The marijuana was in an open field in military-style duffel bags. The marijuana was referred to Alpine DEA.

USBP Agents, assisted by CBP AVN, seized 242.30 lbs of marijuana and apprehended five IAs, including a juvenile, on a ranch near Candelaria. The marijuana was found in five burlap packs lying in a field. One subject was processed for removal. Four subjects and the marijuana were referred to Alpine DEA.

MARFA SECTOR

USBP Agents seized 214.85 lbs of marijuana and apprehended four IAs on a ranch near Marfa. The marijuana consisted of four bricks inside four burlap backpacks. One of the subjects was identified as a Paisas gang member. All of the subjects and the marijuana were referred to Alpine DEA.



Van Horn USBP Agents seized 125.95 lbs of marijuana abandoned on a ranch near Allamore. The marijuana was hidden in the brush in three military style duffel bags and was referred to Alpine DEA.



MARFA SECTOR



Brewster Co Deputies, assisted by USBP agents and TPWD Game Wardens, seized 1,264 lbs of marijuana from a white 2007 Chevrolet 2500 pickup after a pursuit on US-90. The vehicle drove off of the highway and crashed through two ranch fences before coming to a stop at the base of a mountain. The driver and passenger bailed out and absconded. The marijuana was found in the cab and bed of the pickup. The narcotics were wrapped in brown and red tape. The vehicle and the marijuana were referred to Alpine DEA.

MARFA SECTOR

Hudspeth Co SO Deputies seized 100.50 lbs of abandoned marijuana on a ranch near Allamore. The 86 bundles were in a burlap sack without straps. The sack had most likely been part of a vehicle load.



Based on a citizen's tip, Hudspeth Co SO Deputies detained an IA inside a residence on a ranch in southern Hudspeth Co. After being held for criminal trespass, the subject was referred to Sierra Blanca USBP for removal proceedings.

A rancher reported a break-in at a ranch northeast of Candelaria. Presidio Co SO responded, and a knife, flashlight, and food were reported stolen.

Marfa USBP Agents apprehended 12 IAs on a ranch near Marfa. One subject was held in Sierra Blanca pending prosecution, and the other eleven were processed for removal.

DEL RIO SECTOR

On 01 DEC, a USBP K-9 unit at a ranch in Eagle Pass alerted to the presence of narcotics, and the Agent discovered an abandoned duffel bag containing 44.80 lbs of marijuana.



On 01 DEC, a Dimmit Co SO Deputy conducted a traffic stop on a white 2014 Ford F-150 pickup on SH-85, in Big Wells, when a pursuit ensued. The vehicle crashed through a ranch fence, and the occupants bailed out and absconded. The vehicle was reported stolen from San Antonio.

On 10 DEC, a Kinney Co SO Deputy found an abandoned silver 2010 Chevrolet HHR on a ranch near Brackettville. The vehicle, which was reported stolen from San Antonio, was impounded.

On 10 DEC, USBP Agents conducted an inspection on a white 2007 Ford Explorer Sport Trac pickup that had made a U-turn near the Uvalde Checkpoint, when a pursuit ensued. The IA driver admitted to having stolen the vehicle from a ranch near Spofford. The Agents found a shotgun and 25 rounds of 12-gauge ammo in the vehicle. A Kinney Co SO Deputy arrested the subject.

DEL RIO SECTOR

On 09 DEC, a Dimmit Co SO Deputy responded to an abandoned white 2001 Chevrolet 2500 HD pickup that had been found by a ranch owner on his property in Carrizo Springs. The vehicle, which had not been reported stolen, was impounded.



OFFICER'S NOTE: There were indicators that the pickup had been used to transport IAs – the keys were found in it, the back seat had been removed, and one of the tires was shredded.



DEL RIO SECTOR

On 07 DEC, a USBP Agent observed a rented silver 2016 Dodge Grand Caravan enter a ranch near Uvalde. The Dodge then exited the ranch on US-90 in an attempt to bypass the Uvalde Checkpoint. The Agents stopped the vehicle, detained seven IAs, and identified the driver as an alien smuggler. The Agents found small amounts of cocaine and methamphetamine, along with three glass pipes, in the driver door panel. The driver was arrested, the IAs were processed per Sector guidelines, the vehicle was impounded, and the narcotics were turned over to the Uvalde Co SO.

On 14 DEC, USBP Agents conducted a traffic stop on a white 2014 Ford F-150 pickup on US-83 in Asherton, when a pursuit ensued. A Dimmit Co SO Deputy assisted the Agents and followed the pickup until it drove through a ranch fence. Several occupants of the pickup bailed out and absconded. The Deputy identified the pickup as a stolen from Austin.

On 17 DEC, USBP Agents responded to a ranch near Comstock regarding four feed sacks containing a total of 222.80 lbs of marijuana that had been discovered on the property by the owner. The marijuana was seized and turned over to DEA.

LAREDO SECTOR

On 04 DEC, USBP Laredo Agents conducted a traffic stop on a 2003 Dodge Ram 2500 pickup near Laredo, when a pursuit ensued. The vehicle struck a fence post and several subjects bailed out. The Agents apprehended four subjects. The vehicle was reported stolen from Austin.

On 07 DEC, USBP Freer Agents conducted a traffic stop on a white 2016 Ford F-250 pickup on FM 2895 near Laredo, when a pursuit ensued. The vehicle was found abandoned on a ranch. The vehicle was reported stolen from Freer.



RIO GRANDE VALLEY

A Brooks Co SO Deputy responded to a ranch near Falfurrias regarding skeletal remains that had been found during a guided hunt, and was escorted to the location.



A Brooks Co SO Deputy responded to a ranch in central Brooks County regarding skeletal remains. The Deputy met with a USBP Agent, was escorted to the location, and collected several human bones from the area.



A Brooks Co So Deputy responded to a report of skeletal remains on a property on Hwy 185, and made contact with USBP Agents to travel to the location.

COASTAL BEND SECTOR

On 01 DEC, a Lavaca Co SO Deputy conducted a stop on a 2005 Ford F-250 pickup, when a pursuit ensued. The vehicle crashed through a fence, and two subjects bailed out and absconded.

On 11 DEC, a Bee Co SO Deputy conducted a traffic stop on a 2006 Ford F-250 pickup, when a pursuit ensued. The vehicle crashed through a gate, and 12 subjects bailed out. Six IAs were found and referred to USBP. The vehicle was reported stolen from Houston.

On 14 DEC, a Jim Wells Co SO Deputy conducted a traffic stop on a red 2004 Ford Expedition, when a pursuit ensued. The vehicle drove through a ditch and stopped at a fence line. Ten subjects bailed out of the vehicle and absconded.

DRAWBRIDGE

On 26 DEC, a USBP Agent conducted an inspection on a silver 2015 Ford F-350 pickup on FM 468 in Big Wells after receiving a Drawbridge alert, when a pursuit ensued. A Dimmit Co SO Deputy and another USBP Agent found the vehicle abandoned on a ranch. The vehicle was reported stolen from San Antonio.





Total Pursuits and Bailouts (2014-Present)*

Event	El Paso	Marfa	Del Rio	Laredo	Rio Grande Valley	Coastal Bend	TOTAL
Pursuits	3	65	492	285	1,335	544	2,724
Bailouts	0	76	639	414	1,239	498	2,866

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



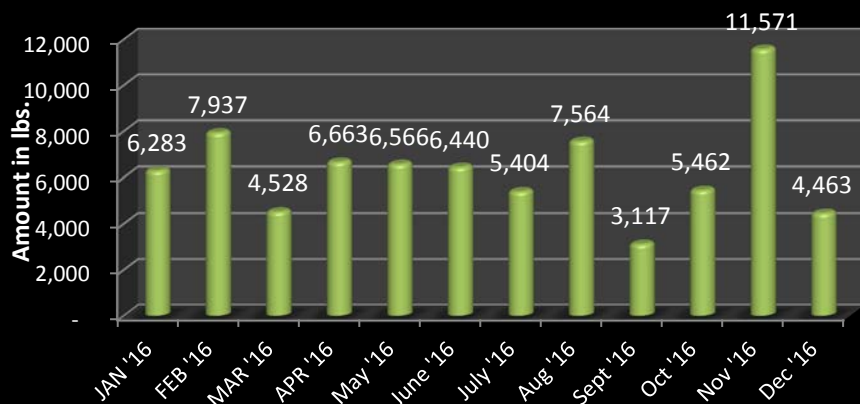


OPERATION DRAWBRIDGE

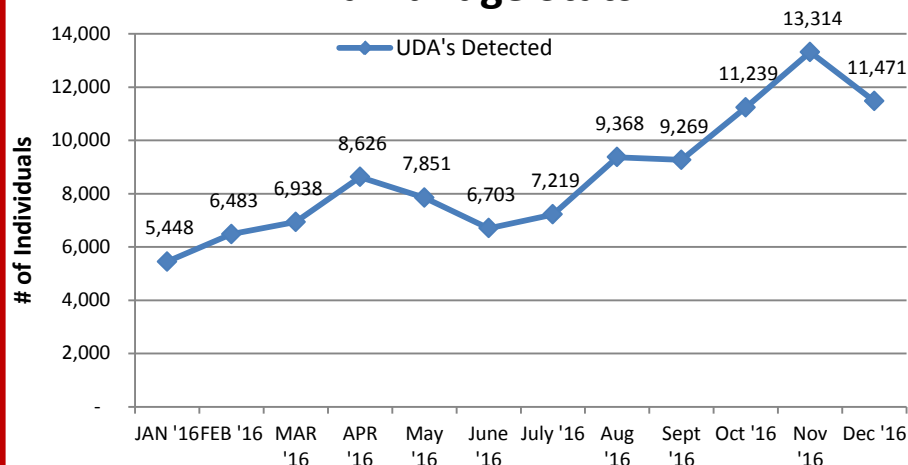
Statistical Summary – DEC 2016



Drawbridge Initiated Marijuana Seizures



Drawbridge Stats



OPERATION DRAWBRIDGE TOTALS: JAN 2012 – DEC 2016

Detections	275,334
Marijuana Seized	365,696 lbs (~183 tons)
Cocaine Seized	227 lbs
Meth Seized	15 lbs
Heroin Seized	2 lbs
Firearms Seized	25

OPERATION DRAWBRIDGE TOTALS: CYTD 2016

Detections	109,227
Narcotics Seized	76,884 lbs (~38 tons)

Note: Figures are based on initial reporting and are subject to change.



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

TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY
BORDER SECURITY OPERATIONS CENTER



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