

Border Operations Sector Assessment

South Texas
Ranch Edition

**February
2017**

**REPORTING PERIOD:
01-28 FEB 2017**



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 February 28, 2017: 44

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.



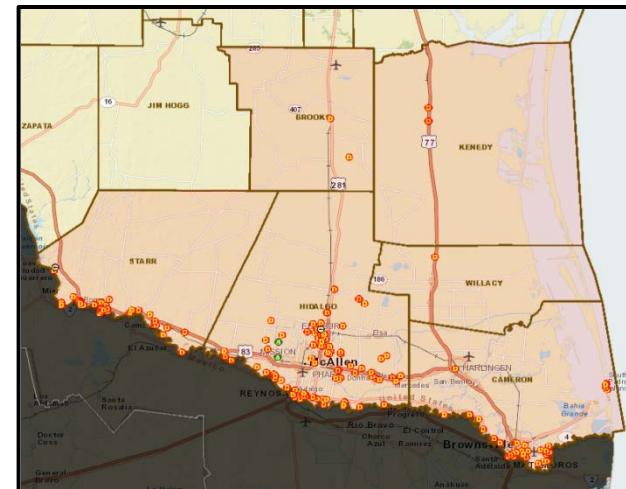
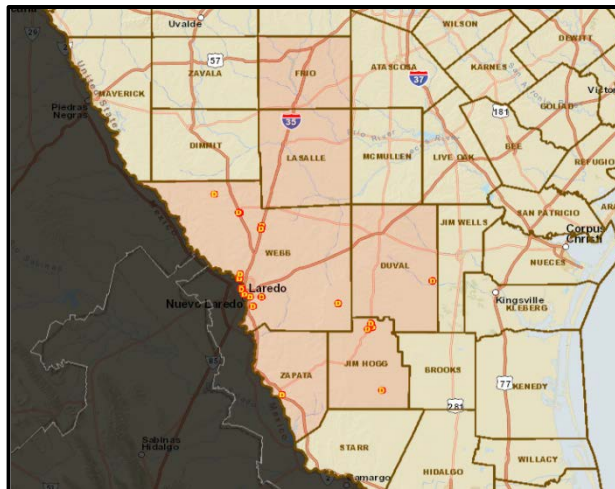
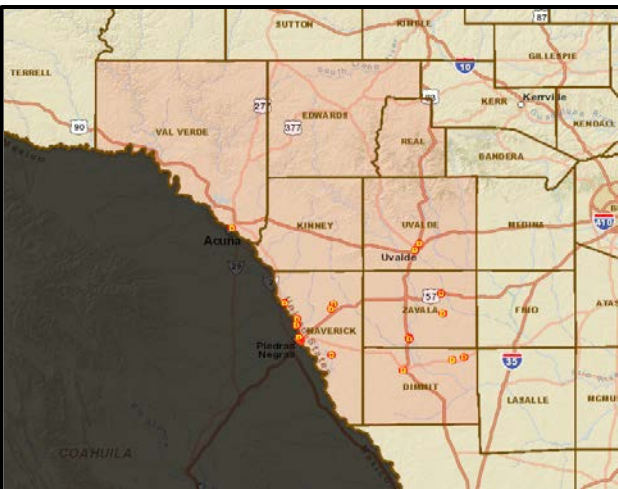
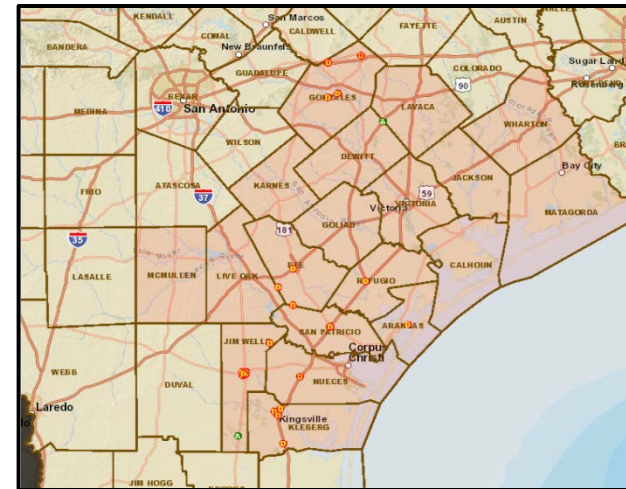
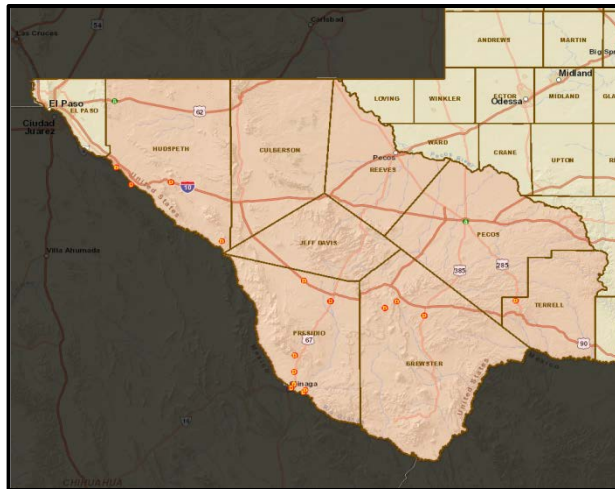
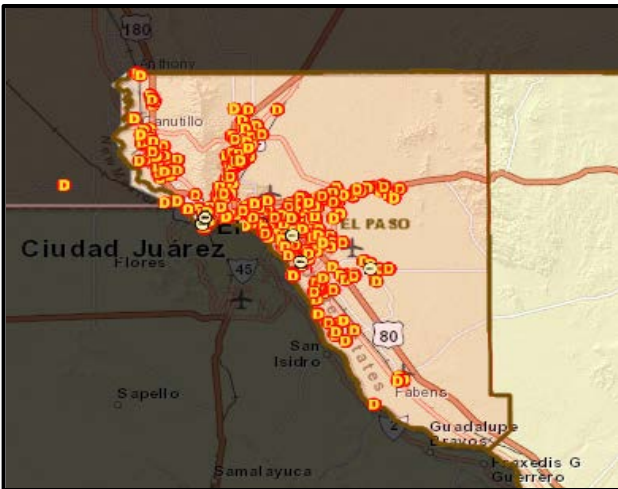
OPERATION BORDER STAR

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
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Ranch Border Operations Sector Assessment

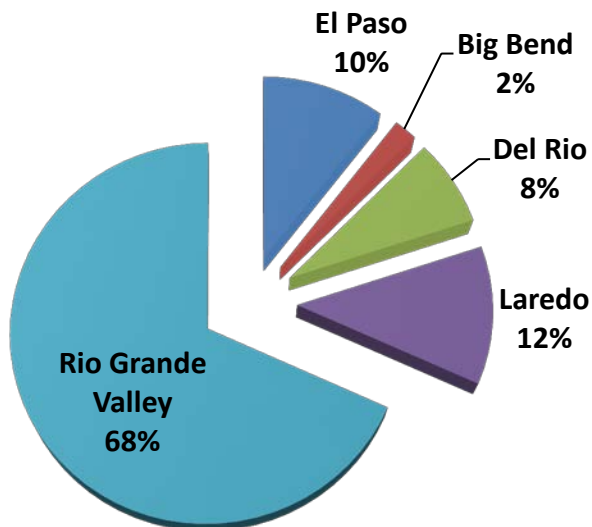


Calendar Year To Date – 2017	El Paso	Marfa	Del Rio	Laredo	RGV	Coastal Bend	TOTAL	2014 ONDCP Adjusted Value (Approximate)
Marijuana (lbs)	14,965	8,484	1,849	25,652	57,557	201	108,709	\$660 Million
Cocaine (lbs)	126	< 1	< 1	1,281	757	87	2,252	\$138 Million
Methamphetamine (lbs)	163	122	87	138	765	< 1	1,276	\$111 Million
Heroin (lbs)	5	< 1	14	85	99	< 1	203	\$26 Million

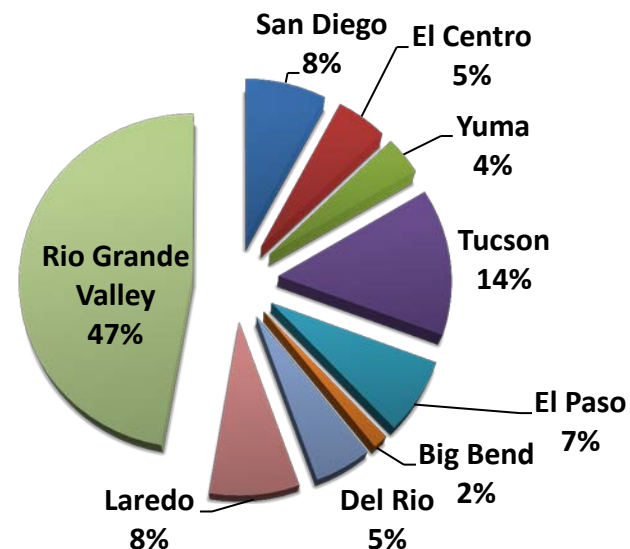




Texas Sector Apprehensions - CY 2016



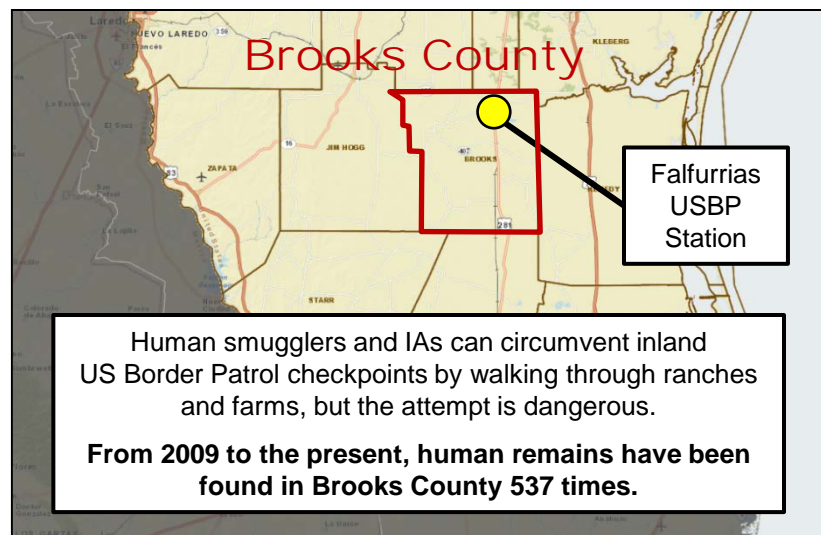
Southwest Border Sector Apprehensions - CY 2016



Illegal Aliens (IAs)	El Paso	Marfa	Del Rio	Laredo	RGV	Coastal Bend	TOTAL
CYTD 2017	4,566	500	2,212	3,889	23,154	0	34,321

Other Than Mexicans (OTMs)	El Paso	Marfa	Del Rio	Laredo	RGV	Coastal Bend	TOTAL
CYTD 2017	2,815	239	988	1,194	18,500	0	23,736

Unaccompanied Alien Children (UACs)	FY 2016	FY 2015	FY- 014	FY 2013	FY 2012
Texas Border	47,192	31,109	58,312	27,827	15,485



MARFA SECTOR



Van Horn USBP Agents seized 224.30 lbs of marijuana and apprehended four IAs in a field south of US-90 near Valentine. The marijuana was in four large wrapped burlap sacks. The subjects and the marijuana were referred to El Paso DEA.

USBP Agents and CBP AVN apprehended six IAs by a ranch headquarters near Candelaria. Four of the subjects were held in Sierra Blanca, and the remaining two were processed for removal.

Presidio USBP Agents seized 271.10 lbs of marijuana that had been abandoned in a field off of US-67. The marijuana was found in 11 cellophane-wrapped bundles and several plastic grocery bags divided among six sugar sacks. The marijuana was referred to Alpine DEA.

Presidio USBP Agents, with the assistance of DPS AVN, apprehended six IAs on a ranch west of Shafter. The subjects were processed for removal.

MARFA SECTOR

Sanderson USBP agents apprehended 12 IAs on a ranch near Fort Stockton. Two subjects were held in Marfa pending removal proceedings, and the remaining subjects were processed for expedited removal.

Brewster Co SO Deputies seized 252 lbs of marijuana and apprehended two subjects during a vehicle stop on ranch property in Alpine. The marijuana was in five military-style duffel bags. The subjects and marijuana were turned over to Alpine DEA.



Subjects and Narcotics

DEL RIO SECTOR

On 01 FEB, USBP Agents were dispatched to a ranch near Normandy regarding a possible narcotics incident. An Agent observed bundles being loaded into a black 2003 Ford F-250 pickup on US-277, and conducted a traffic stop on the vehicle, when a pursuit ensued. A Maverick Co SO Deputy assisted. The driver bailed out of the vehicle in Quemado and fled on foot. In the vehicle, the Agents and the Deputy found 437.30 lbs of marijuana. Later, a Maverick Co SO Deputy caught the subject and turned him over to HSI-ICE, who arrested him and took custody of the vehicle and marijuana.

On 03 FEB, the owner of a ranch in southwest Kinney County reported that a building had been broken into and several items stolen. Kinney Co SO responded, and USBP assisted. USBP Agents apprehended four IAs with the stolen items on another ranch. One of the IAs admitted to breaking into the ranch building and stealing the items. He was also identified as a Partido Revolucionario Mexicano gang member. The gang member was arrested, and the other IAs were processed per Sector guidelines.

On 06 FEB, a Kinney Co SO Deputy observed five subjects on a ranch near Brackettville. A USBP Agent apprehended an IA, but the other four subjects absconded. The IA was processed per Sector guidelines.

DEL RIO SECTOR

On 11 FEB, a Zavala Co SO Deputy conducted a traffic stop on a white 2012 Ford F-250 pickup on US-57 in Batesville, when a pursuit ensued. The vehicle drove onto a ranch, where the Deputy found it abandoned. USBP Agents responded and remained in the area to search for subjects.

The vehicle was impounded.



On 12 FEB, a Dimmit Co SO Deputy conducted a traffic stop on a white 2008 Chevrolet Silverado C1500 pickup on SH-85 in Big Wells, when a pursuit ensued. The vehicle drove through a ranch fence in Frio County, and all of the subjects bailed out and absconded. The vehicle was impounded, with no arrests.

On 27 FEB, USBP Agents found seven military-style duffel bags containing 348.70 lbs of abandoned marijuana on a ranch in Eagle Pass.

LAREDO SECTOR

On 1 FEB, Jim Hogg Co SO Deputies conducted a traffic stop on a 2009 Dodge Ram pickup near Hebbronville, when a pursuit ensued. The vehicle drove off the roadway and crashed into a fence, and the subjects bailed out. The Deputies referred an IA to USBP.



On 28 FEB, USBP Laredo Agents apprehended five subjects on a ranch in Laredo. A search of the area resulted in the seizure of 229.90 lbs of marijuana in four large duffel bags. The narcotics were turned over to DEA.

RIO GRANDE VALLEY

In separate incidents, Brooks Co SO responded to the locations of eleven sets of skeletal remains that had been found on ranches across northern Brooks County. USBP Agents assisted.

COASTAL BEND SECTOR

On 22 FEB, a McMullen Co SO Deputy assisted USBP in the pursuit of a 2015 Ford F-350 pickup. An unknown number of subjects absconded after the vehicle crashed into a fence. The vehicle was confirmed stolen from Travis County.



Total Pursuits and Bailouts (CY 2014 – Present)*

Event	El Paso	Marfa	Del Rio	Laredo	Rio Grande Valley	Coastal Bend	TOTAL
Pursuits	3	69	519	296	1,383	563	2,833
Bailouts	0	85	668	423	1,290	512	2,978

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



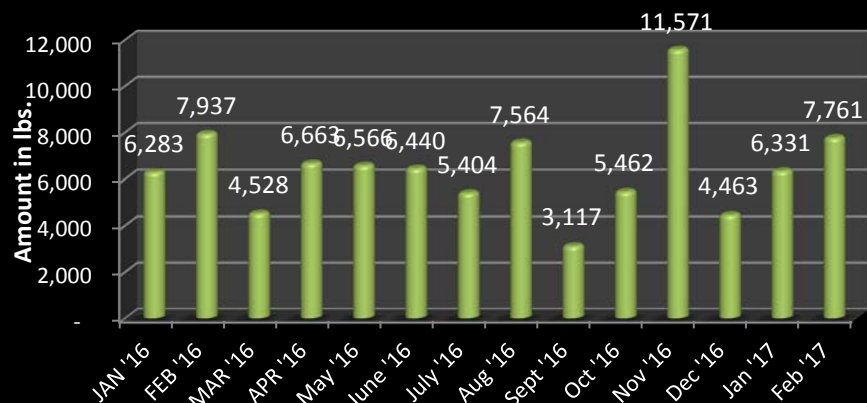


OPERATION DRAWBRIDGE

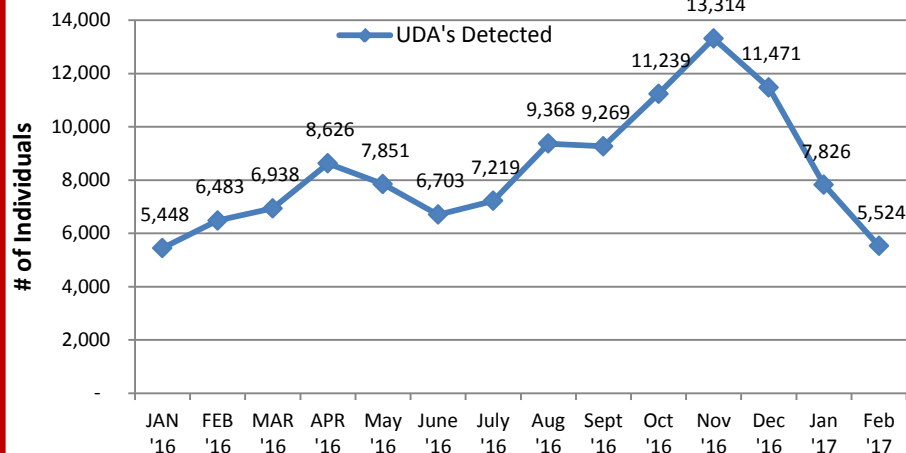
Statistical Summary – FEB 2017



Drawbridge Initiated Marijuana Seizures



Drawbridge Stats



OPERATION DRAWBRIDGE TOTALS: JAN 2012 – FEB 2017

Detections	302,034
Marijuana Seized	393,880 lbs (≈197 tons)
Cocaine Seized	227 lbs
Methamphetamine Seized	15 lbs
Heroin Seized	2 lbs
Firearms Seized	25

OPERATION DRAWBRIDGE TOTALS: CYTD 2017

Detections	13,350
Narcotics Seized	14,092 lbs (≈7 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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