

# **Border Operations Sector Assessment**

South Texas  
Ranch Edition

**March  
2017**

**REPORTING PERIOD:  
01-31 MAR 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 March 31, 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

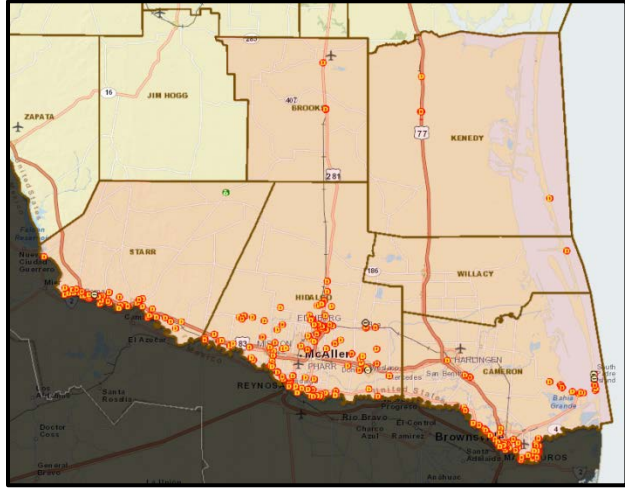
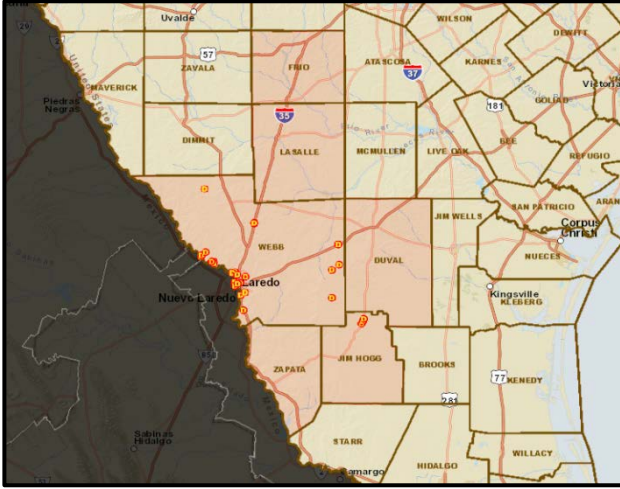
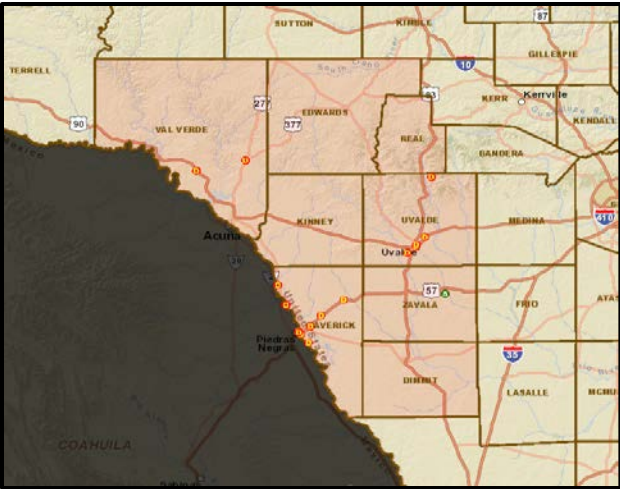
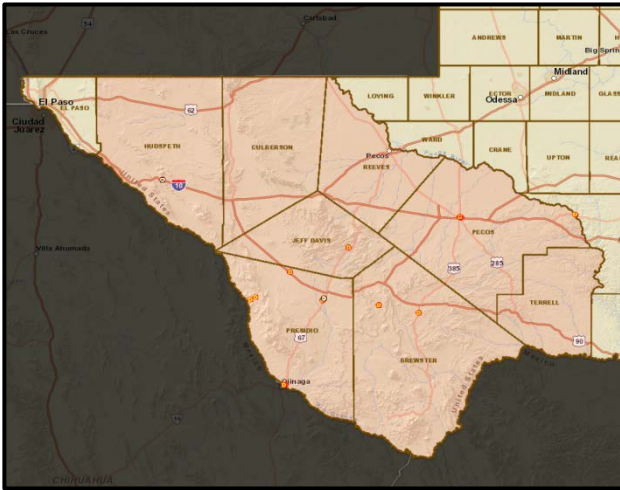
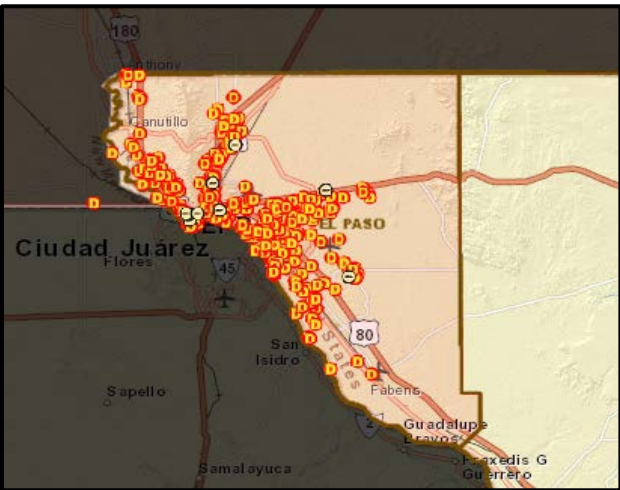
JOIC Contact Information	Border Security Ops Ctr (Austin)	El Paso JOIC (El Paso)	Big Bend JOIC (Marfa)	Del Rio Sector (Del Rio)	Laredo Sector (Laredo)	Rio Grande Valley Sector (McAllen)	Coastal Bend Sector (Victoria)
Main Phone #	(512) 454-7561	(915) 680-6500	(432) 729-4506	(830) 778-7837	(956) 764-3181	(956) 289-5727	(361) 485-8500
Main E-mail	<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>



# Ranch Border Operations Sector Assessment

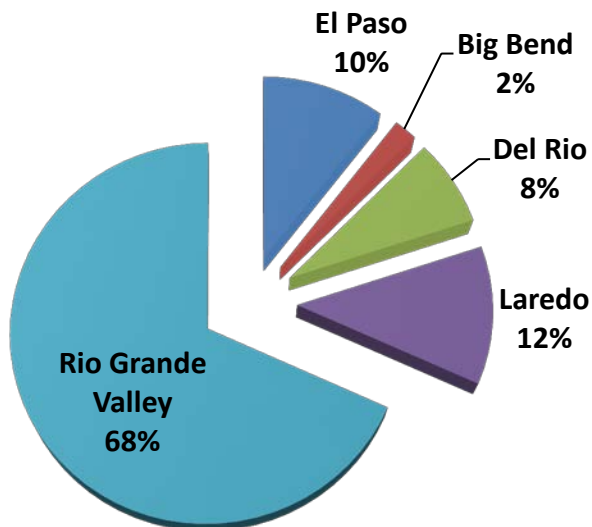


Calendar Year To Date – 2017	El Paso	Marfa	Del Rio	Laredo	RGV	Coastal Bend	TOTAL	2014 ONDCP Adjusted Value (Approximate)
<b>Marijuana (lbs)</b>	27,922	13,585	3,908	40,497	92,796	234	<b>178,983</b>	<b>\$1.1 Billion</b>
<b>Cocaine (lbs)</b>	226	11	14	1,964	1,093	96	<b>3,404</b>	<b>\$209 Million</b>
<b>Methamphetamine (lbs)</b>	245	170	105	472	1,490	< 1	<b>2,482</b>	<b>\$216 Million</b>
<b>Heroin (lbs)</b>	53	< 1	15	175	103	< 1	<b>348</b>	<b>\$45 Million</b>

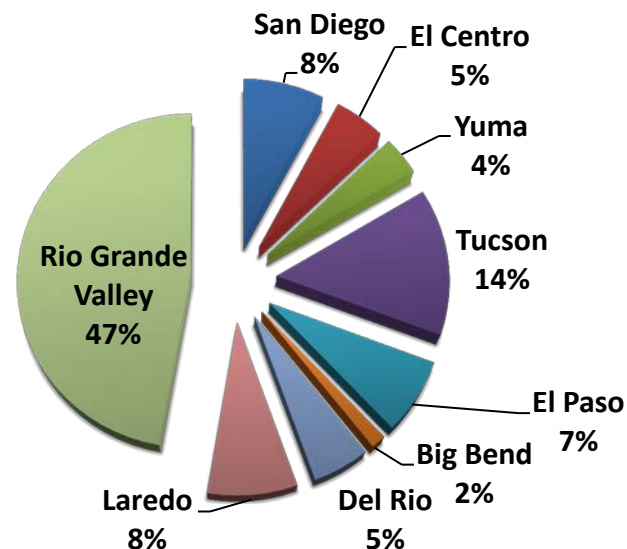




## Texas Sector Apprehensions - CY 2016



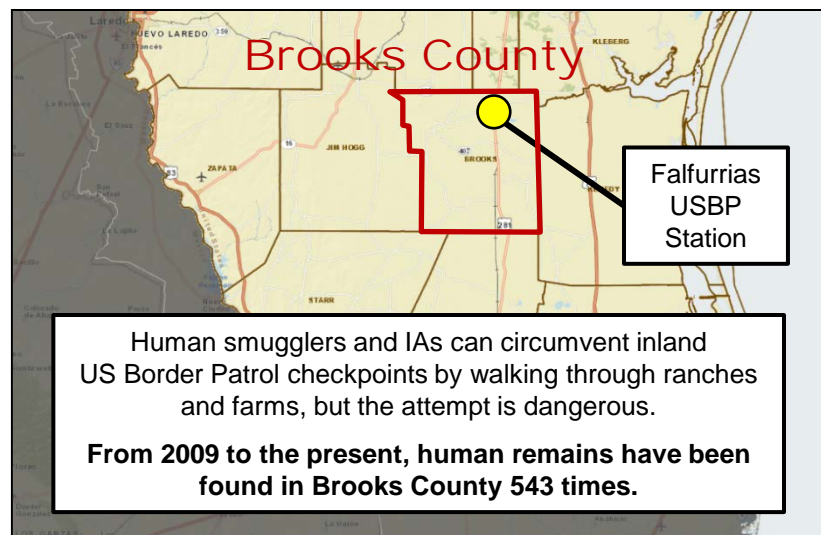
## Southwest Border Sector Apprehensions - CY 2016



Illegal Aliens (IAs)	El Paso	Marfa	Del Rio	Laredo	RGV	Coastal Bend	TOTAL
CYTD 2017	5,664	865	3,130	5,341	28,332	0	43,332

Other Than Mexicans (OTMs)	El Paso	Marfa	Del Rio	Laredo	RGV	Coastal Bend	TOTAL
CYTD 2017	3,267	381	1,342	1,625	21,832	0	28,447

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

USBP Agents seized 120.90 lbs of abandoned marijuana in several sugar sacks near a ranch in Candelaria. The marijuana was referred to Alpine DEA.

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Presidio USBP Agents apprehended 13 IAs in a field near Presidio. A subject was held in Sierra Blanca pending federal prosecution, and the other twelve were processed for removal.

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USBP Agents, assisted by CBP AVN, seized 362.75 lbs of marijuana and apprehended seven IAs near a ranch in Candelaria. The marijuana was bundled in seven backpacks and concealed in a cave. One of the IAs had been arrested in an event in 2012. The subjects and marijuana were referred to Alpine DEA.





# MARFA SECTOR



USBP Agents seized 274.05 lbs of marijuana and apprehended four IAs on a ranch near Marfa. The marijuana consisted of 183 cellophane-wrapped bricks in four sugar-sack backpacks. The marijuana and subjects were referred to Alpine ICE.



# DEL RIO SECTOR

On 02 MAR, Sutton Co SO Deputies responded to the report of a white 2014 Ford F-350 pickup stolen from a shop yard on US-277 near Sonora. The Deputies, THP Troopers, and a TPWD Game Warden stopped the vehicle on US-277 near a ranch. The subject was arrested, and the vehicle was returned to the owner.

On 10 MAR, a Dimmit Co SO Deputy conducted a traffic stop on a white 2015 Ford F-150 pickup on FM 2688 in Catarina, when a pursuit ensued. The driver turned onto a farm road, bailed out, and absconded. The Deputy identified the vehicle as stolen from Bexar County.



On 09 MAR, a USBP Agent conducted an inspection on a black 2013 Ford F-150 pickup on US-83 in Asherton. The vehicle veered off the road and crashed through a fence. The Agent apprehended five IAs, but the driver absconded. The vehicle had multiple LPs, and was reported stolen from Austin. A Dimmit Co SO Deputy impounded the vehicle.



# DEL RIO SECTOR

On 17 MAR, DPS AVN assisted USBP Agents in locating three IAs on a ranch near El Indio. The IAs were processed per sector guidelines.



On 20 MAR, Zavala Co SO Deputies conducted a traffic stop on a black 2004 Mazda Tribute on FM 1025 in Batesville, when a pursuit ensued. The vehicle crashed through a ranch fence, and the driver bailed out. The Deputies found the car in flames.



# DEL RIO SECTOR



On 25 MAR, DPS AVN assisted USBP Agents in a search for 13 IAs who were traveling through a ranch on US-277 in Kinney Co. The Agents apprehended nine IAs.

On 24 MAR, a USBP Agent and a K-9 searched the area around the Del Rio Checkpoint on US-277. The K-9 alerted, and the Agent found two abandoned packages containing a total of 5.70 lbs of marijuana on ranch property. The marijuana was turned over to DEA.

On 23 MAR, a USBP Agent observed a gray 2016 Ford F-150 pickup traveling north on US-83 near Asherton. The vehicle turned onto FM 2522 at a high rate of speed, then crashed through a ranch fence. The occupants bailed out and absconded. The vehicle was reported stolen from Wallis.

# LAREDO SECTOR

On 04 MAR, USBP Freer Agents observed a stolen 2014 Ford F-250 pickup near Benavides. The vehicle crashed through a ranch fence, and the occupants bailed out. The Agents found a handgun in the vehicle, and apprehended an IA. The vehicle and the weapon were seized.



On 06 MAR, USBP Laredo Agents found and seized 305.12 lbs of marijuana while tracking a group of IAs on a ranch near Laredo. No arrests were made. The marijuana was turned over to DEA.

On 24 MAR, Jim Hogg Co SO Deputies conducted a traffic stop on a 2014 Chevrolet Malibu and a 2011 Chrysler 200 in Hebbronville, when a pursuit of both vehicles ensued. The vehicles crashed through a ranch fence, and the occupants bailed out. The Deputies apprehended four subjects and discovered a total of 104 lbs of marijuana in the vehicles. The subjects were arrested, and the marijuana was seized.



# RIO GRANDE VALLEY

A Hidalgo Co SO Deputy engaged in the pursuit of a 1997 Ford F-150 pickup, and found it abandoned after it went down a private driveway. The driver absconded, but the Deputy located and arrested the passenger.

A Hidalgo Co Constable Pct 4 Deputy and USBP Agents engaged in the pursuit of a 2007 Nissan Armada near San Manuel. The vehicle crashed into a ranch gate. The occupants bailed out, and a search led to the apprehension of five IAs by USBP.

A Brooks Co SO Deputy responded to a ranch in western Brooks County regarding skeletal remains that had been found in an open field.

A Brooks Co SO Deputy assisted by Texas State Guard and USBP found human remains on a ranch in northwestern Brooks County.



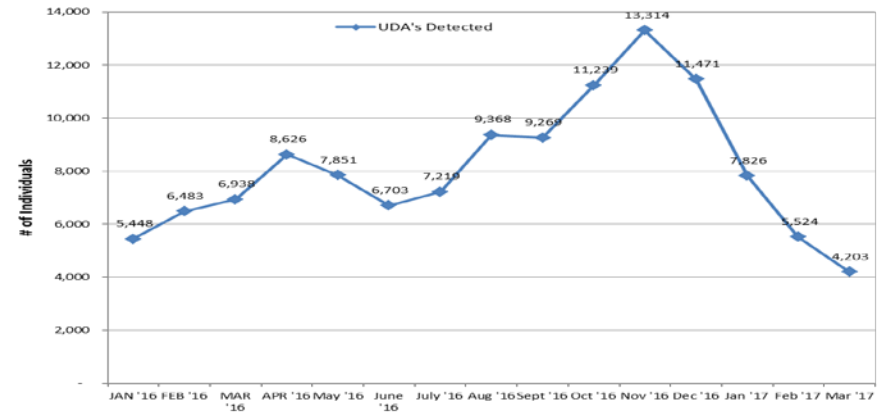
## Total Pursuits and Bailouts (CY 2014-Present)\*

Event	El Paso	Marfa	Del Rio	Laredo	Rio Grande Valley	Coastal Bend	TOTAL
Pursuits	3	74	527	301	1,415	565	<b>2,885</b>
Bailouts	0	87	679	429	1,320	514	<b>3,029</b>

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







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

**TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY**  
**BORDER SECURITY OPERATIONS CENTER**



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