

Border Operations Sector Assessment

South Texas
Ranch Edition

**October
2017**

**REPORTING PERIOD:
01-31 OCT 2017**



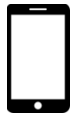
TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY BORDER SECURITY OPERATIONS CENTER



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 October 31, 2017: 51

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



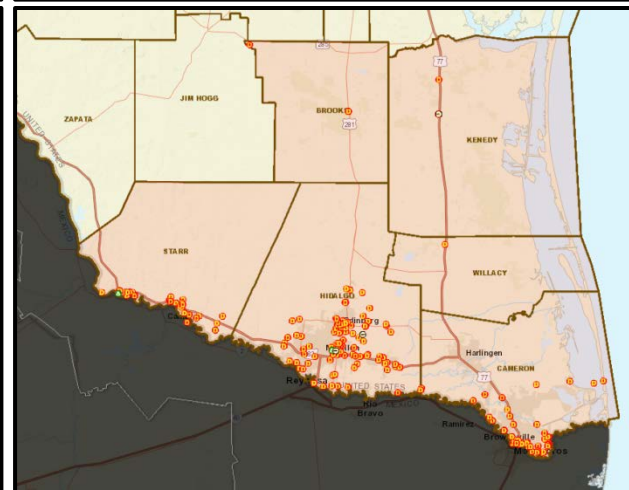
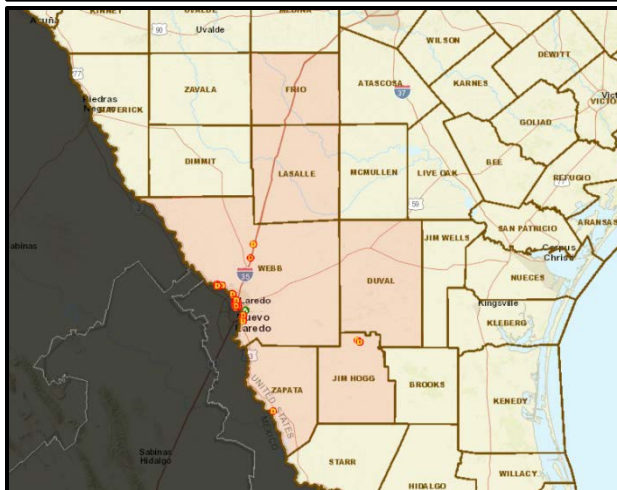
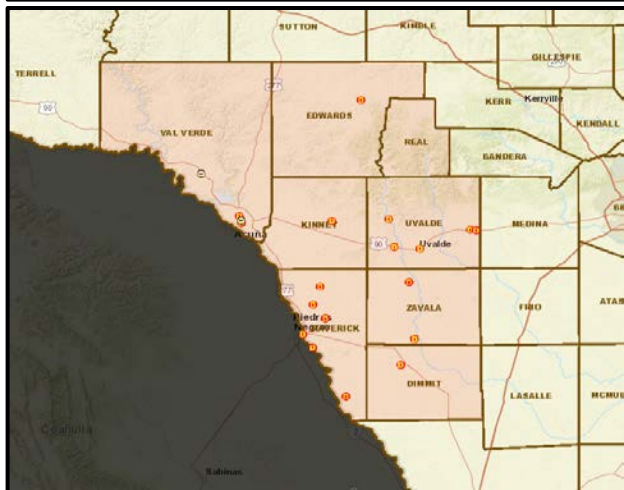
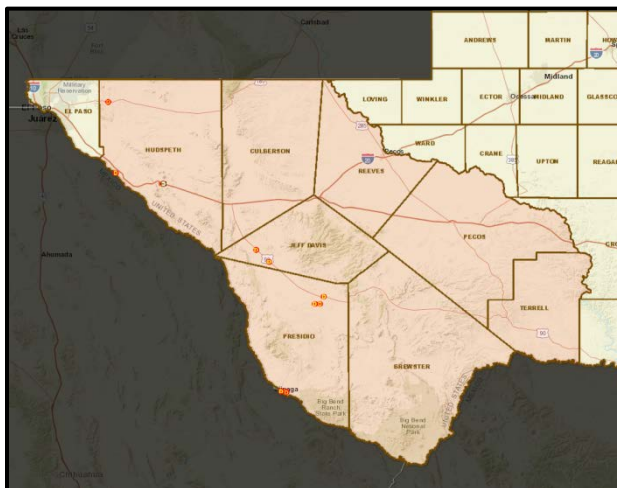
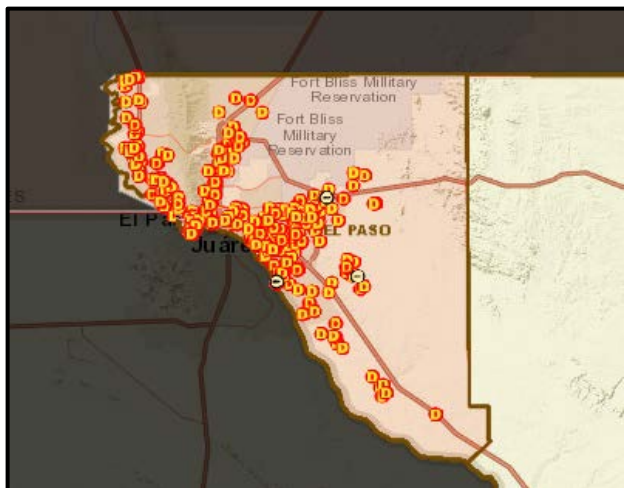
You may use the [Texas DPS iWatch](#) to report suspicious activities or behaviors that may indicate criminal or terrorist activity, such as drug smuggling, human smuggling, oil field thefts, and other criminal activity. Every report will be reviewed by analysts. You may also contact DPS at 1-866-786-5972,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



OPERATION BORDER STAR

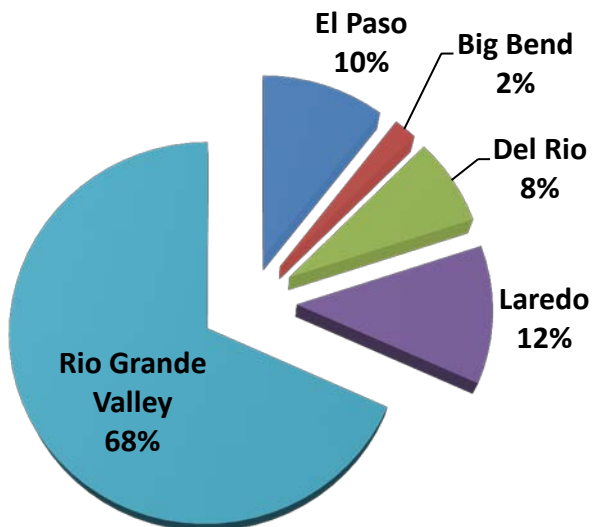
JOIC Contact Information	Border Security Ops Ctr (Austin)	El Paso JOIC (El Paso)	Big Bend JOIC (Marfa)	Del Rio Sector (Del Rio)	Laredo Sector (Laredo)	Rio Grande Valley Sector (McAllen)	Coastal Bend Sector (Victoria)
Main Phone #	(512) 454-7561	(915) 680-6500	(432) 729-4506	(830) 778-7837	(956) 764-3181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

Seizures – CYTD 2017	El Paso	Marfa	Del Rio	Laredo	RGV	Coastal Bend	TOTAL
Marijuana (lbs)	71,468	31,875	7,473	125,198	270,939	888	507,841
Cocaine (lbs)	1,063	82	140	3,318	5,350	181	10,134
Methamphetamine (lbs)	969	225	373	3,853	4,229	< 1	9,650
Heroin (lbs)	126	21	88	413	257	< 1	906

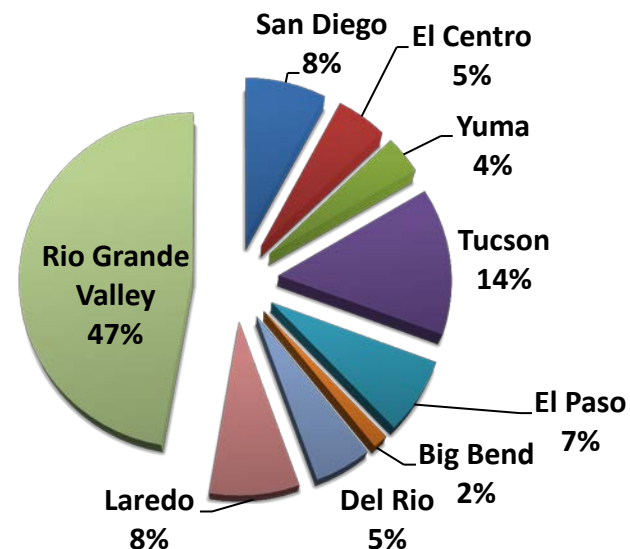




Texas Sector Apprehensions - CY 2016



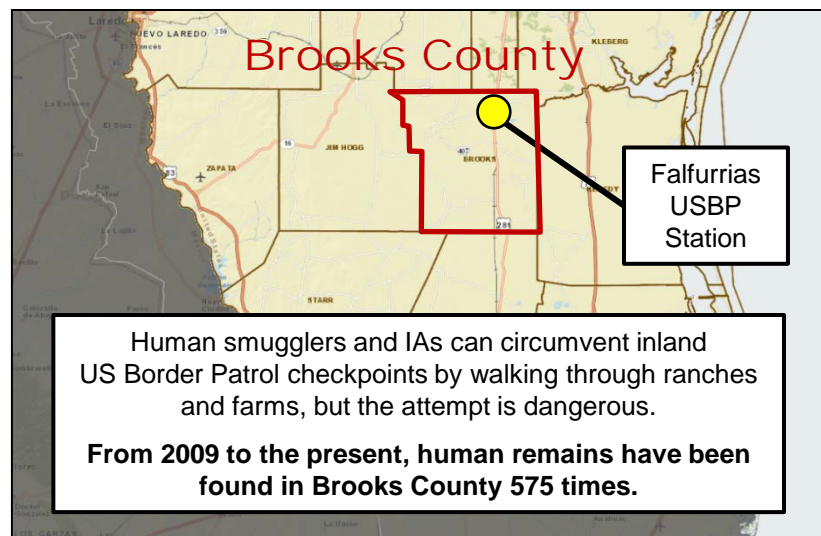
Southwest Border Sector Apprehensions - CY 2016



Illegal Aliens (IAs)	El Paso	Marfa	Del Rio	Laredo	RGV	Coastal Bend	TOTAL
CYTD 2017	14,635	4,034	8,614	18,775	75,082	0	121,140

Other Than Mexicans (OTMs)	El Paso	Marfa	Del Rio	Laredo	RGV	Coastal Bend	TOTAL
CYTD 2017	7,556	2,134	3,559	5,289	54,176	0	72,714

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 234.75 lbs of marijuana and apprehended four IAs, including a juvenile, on a ranch northwest of Marfa. The marijuana was found in four burlap sacks. The subjects and marijuana were referred to Alpine DEA.



A Presidio Co SO Deputy detained five IAs on a ranch southwest of Marfa. The subjects were referred to Marfa USBP.

In two incidents, USBP Agents apprehended a total of 20 IAs on a ranch east of Marfa. TPWD Game Wardens assisted with one of the incidents.

Additional USBP Agent apprehensions on Marfa-Sector ranches in OCT:

- 13 IAs – northeast of Marfa
- 7 IAs – south of Marfa
- 5 IAs – southwest of Alpine
- 7 IAs – east of Valentine
- 5 IAs – southeast of Sierra Blanca

DEL RIO SECTOR

In two incidents (on 02 OCT and 09 OCT) on a ranch east of Quemado, USBP Agents first found 90.80 lbs of abandoned marijuana, then apprehended eight IAs.

On 10 OCT, an off-duty USBP Agent observed a vehicle driving west on US-57 turn up FM 481, stop at a ranch gate, and return to US-57 headed east. On US-57, west of La Pryor, another Agent conducted an inspection on the vehicle and discovered four IAs. The Agent arrested the IA driver for human smuggling and impounded the vehicle pending disposition.

On 07 OCT, a Zavala Co SO Deputy conducted a traffic stop on a white 2004 Dodge Ram 3500 quad cab pickup on FM 1025 west of Batesville. The vehicle accelerated, and a pursuit ensued. The vehicle turned onto FM 1867 and the occupants bailed out. USBP Agents were called to assist after an IA turned himself in. The vehicle was reported stolen from Kyle. USBP Agents searched the ranch, and found four IAs in brush later in the evening. Four of the IAs were arrested, and a juvenile IA was released to MX authorities. The vehicle was impounded.

DEL RIO SECTOR



On 17 OCT, a Zavala Co SO Deputy conducted a traffic stop on a black 2007 Suzuki Forenza on US-83 in La Pryor, when a pursuit ensued. The vehicle turned onto US-57 and crashed through a ranch fence. The driver bailed out and absconded.

On 18 OCT, a Dimmit Co SO Deputy conducted a traffic stop on a white 2011 Ford F-250 pickup on FM 2688 in Carrizo Springs, when a pursuit ensued. After the vehicle crossed over several ranches and stopped, the occupants bailed out. One IA was located. CBP OAM and USBP assisted. The vehicle was reported stolen from San Antonio.



DEL RIO SECTOR

On 05 OCT, an Edwards Co SO Deputy was dispatched to a ranch on CR 335 in Rocksprings. Investigation of the ranch revealed that three mobile homes had been burglarized. One of the owners reported stolen property: a handgun, ammo, a black tactical bag, a head lamp, and two hunting/outdoor edge knives. The other two mobile-home owners could not be contacted, the investigation is ongoing.

On 05 OCT, USBP Agents encountered 10 subjects in brush on a ranch on FM 2691 near Crystal City. The Agents were able to apprehend seven IAs. One was identified as the guide for the group, and another, who was identified as a registered sex offender, was arrested for illegal entry. The guide was arrested as the human smuggler, and the remaining IAs were processed.

On 10 OCT, a Zavala Co SO Deputy conducted a traffic stop on a tan 2004 Chevrolet 2500 pickup on FM 1025 in Crystal City, when a pursuit ensued. After the vehicle crashed through two fence lines, the driver bailed out and absconded. A records check indicated that the vehicle was stolen from Travis Co.

DEL RIO SECTOR

On 11 OCT, a concerned citizen contacted the Uvalde Co SO regarding a pickup that had been parked beside a highway for several hours. A Uvalde Co SO Deputy located the vehicle stopped at a ranch gate on CR 405, and conducted a traffic stop on the vehicle as it was leaving the area. USBP Agents assisted and identified a Mexican national (with employment authorization/DACA status) and four IAs inside the vehicle. The IA driver was arrested, and the Mexican national was arrested as the human smuggler. The other three IAs were processed, and the vehicle was impounded.

On 17 OCT, a Dimmit Co SO Deputy was dispatched regarding a vehicle picking up IAs. The Deputy conducted a traffic stop on a black 2014 Chevrolet C-1500 pickup in Carrizo Springs, when a pursuit ensued. The vehicle drove onto a ranch. One IA was detained by the Deputy and referred to USBP, but the other subjects bailed out and absconded. The pickup was reported stolen from San Antonio. Later in the evening, CBP OAM located three IAs near the scene of the bailout. All four IAs were processed.



LAREDO SECTOR



On 02 OCT, USBP Hebbronville Agents responding to activity near a ranch in Hebbronville apprehended six IAs and seized 238.70 lbs of marijuana. The marijuana and IAs were turned over to HSI.

On 7 OCT, USBP Laredo North Agents responded to a report of a smuggling attempt at a ranch on FM 1472 in Laredo, and found five abandoned bundles of marijuana weighing a total of 361.79 lbs.



LAREDO SECTOR

On 07 OCT, USBP Laredo North Agents encountered a silver 2003 Dodge Ram pickup travelling west on SH-44 near Encinal. The vehicle, which was reported stolen, turned abruptly and crashed through a ranch fence. The Agents found the vehicle abandoned half a mile inside the property.

On 04 OCT, USBP Cotulla Agents observed a white 2017 Ford F-250 pickup on IH-35 near Cotulla. The vehicle was reported stolen from Austin. The vehicle failed to yield, and the Agents found the vehicle abandoned after it had crashed through a fence.

On 08 OCT, USBP Laredo West Agents on US-83 near Laredo found a gap in a ranch fence and discovered an abandoned white 2007 Ford F-250 pickup that was reported stolen from San Antonio.

On 12 OCT, USBP Freer Agents assisted Freer PD with the pursuit of a stolen 2007 Lincoln Mark LT. The vehicle crashed through a ranch fence, and five subjects bailed out and absconded. The vehicle was stolen from San Antonio.

LAREDO SECTOR

On 14 OCT, USBP Laredo Agents responded to activity at a ranch near Laredo. The Agents found 46.47 lbs of abandoned marijuana and turned it over to DEA.

On 12 OCT, USBP Cotulla Agents pursued a 2011 Ford F-150 pickup on FM 462 after determining that its registration was for a different vehicle. The pickup crashed through a ranch fence, and the occupants bailed out. The pickup was identified as stolen from Austin.

On 24 OCT, USBP Laredo North Agents found an abandoned green 2007 Ford F-350 pickup on a ranch on SH-44 near Laredo. The vehicle was reported stolen from Eagle Pass. The Agents apprehended 20 IAs in the area. The vehicle was turned over to Webb Co SO.

COASTAL BEND SECTOR

On 04 OCT, a Lavaca Co SO Deputy conducted a traffic stop on a 1998 Dodge 3500 pickup, when a pursuit ensued. The vehicle crashed into a fence, and 15 subjects bailed out and absconded. A subject was apprehended and was found to be an IA. The subject was referred to USBP.

On 23 OCT, McMullen Co SO Deputies conducted a traffic stop on a 2006 Ford F-250 pickup near Tilden, when a pursuit ensued. The vehicle crashed into a steel fence, causing multiple injuries to several occupants. The driver absconded. The Deputies reported that 10 IAs were transported to a hospital. Two IAs absconded from the hospital, and the remaining eight IAs were referred to USBP.



Total Pursuits and Bailouts (CY2014 - Present)*

Event	El Paso	Marfa	Del Rio	Laredo	Rio Grande Valley	Coastal Bend	TOTAL
Pursuits	3	76	572	365	1,535	591	3,142
Bailouts	0	90	728	563	1,425	553	3,359

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



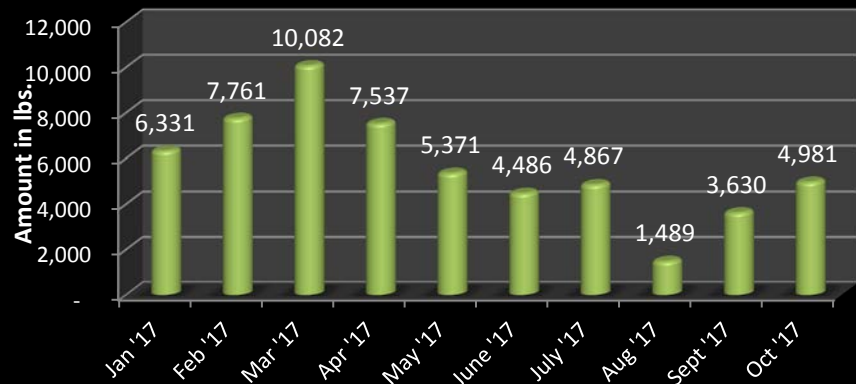


OPERATION DRAWBRIDGE

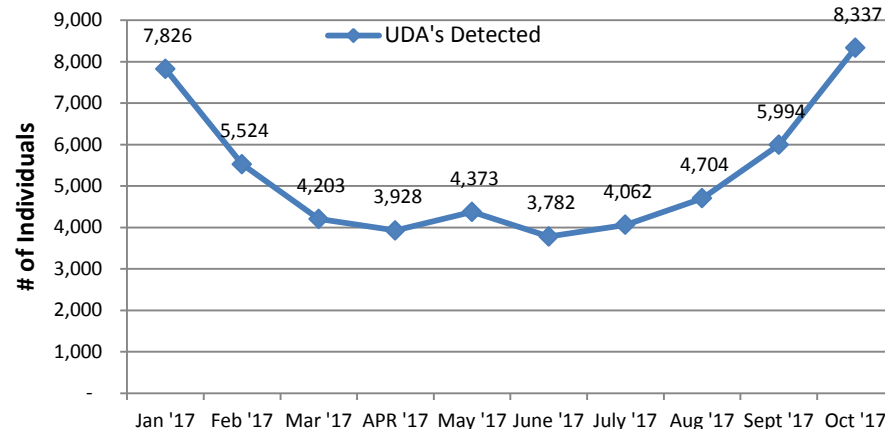
Statistical Summary – OCT 2017



Drawbridge Initiated Marijuana Seizures



Drawbridge Stats



Operation Drawbridge Totals: JAN 2012 – OCT 2017

Detections	328,172
Marijuana Seized	422,597 lbs (>211 tons)
Cocaine Seized	227 lbs
Methamphetamine Seized	15 lbs
Heroin Seized	2 lbs
Firearms Seized	27

Operation Drawbridge Totals: CYTD 2017

Detections	52,838
Narcotics Seized	56,901 lbs (>28 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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