

Border Operations Sector Assessment

South Texas
Ranch Edition

**March
2018**

**REPORTING PERIOD:
01-31 MAR 2018**



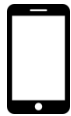
TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY BORDER SECURITY OPERATIONS CENTER



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, 2018: 58**

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



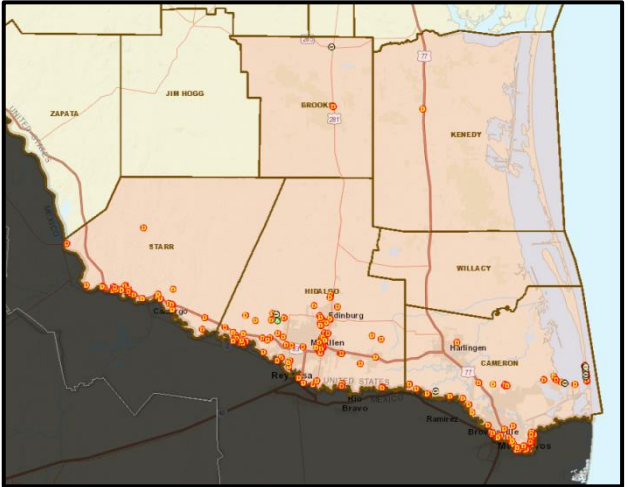
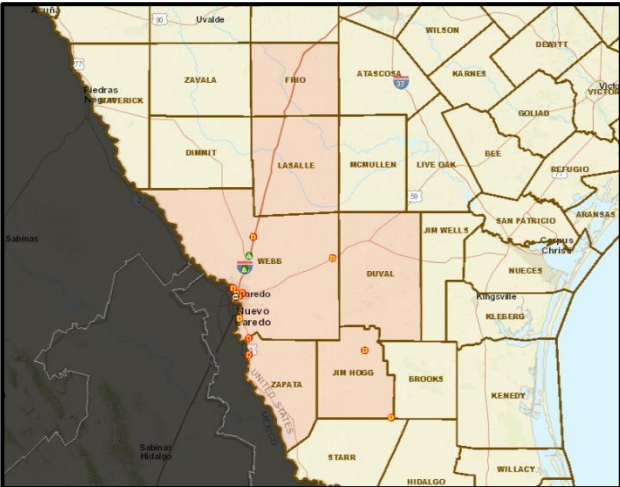
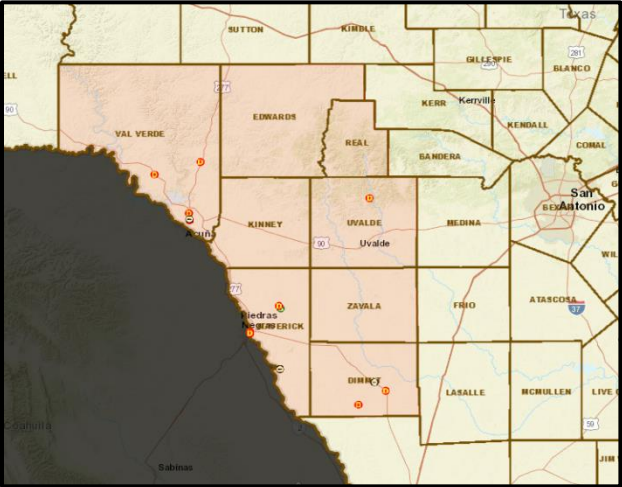
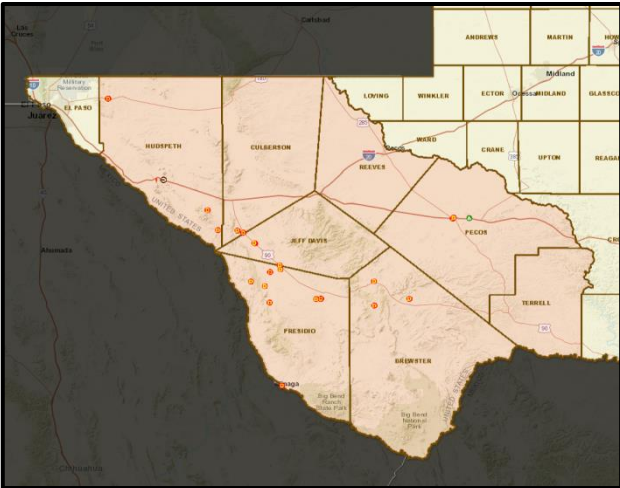
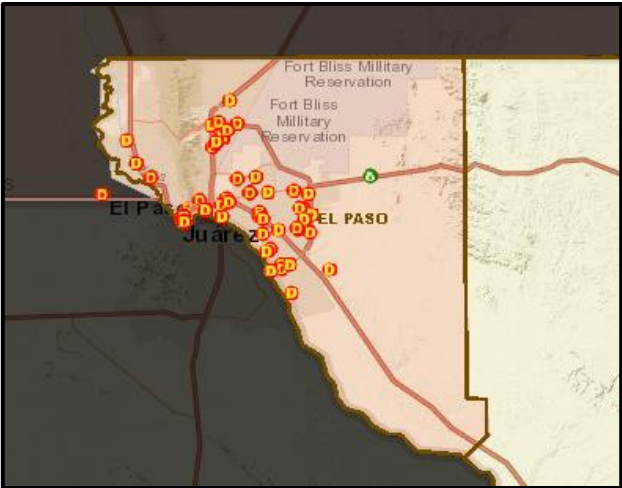
You may use the [Texas DPS iWatch](#) to report suspicious activities or behaviors that may indicate criminal or terrorist activity, such as drug smuggling, human smuggling, oil field thefts, and other criminal activity. Every report will be reviewed by analysts. You may also contact DPS at 1-866-786-5972, 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 2018	El Paso	Marfa	Del Rio	Laredo	RGV	Coastal Bend	TOTAL
Marijuana (lbs)	16,744	12,148	521	35,427	73,142	13	137,995
Cocaine (lbs)	425	21	11	891	922	11	2,282
Methamphetamine (lbs)	346	26	455	1,128	783	< 1	2,737
Heroin (lbs)	60	26	< 1	104	15	--	205





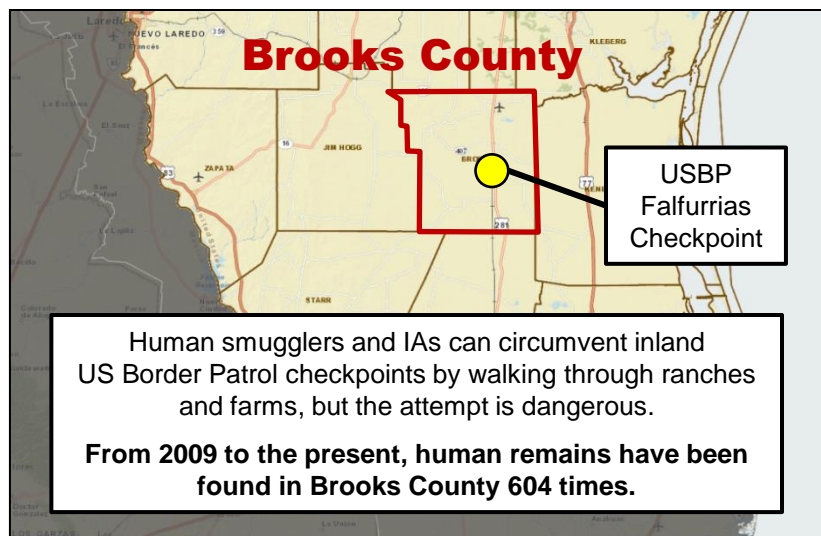
CY 2017 charts for USBP Texas Sector apprehensions and USBP Southwest Border apprehensions are in the revision process.



Illegal Aliens (IAs)	El Paso	Marfa	Del Rio	Laredo	RGV	Coastal Bend	TOTAL
CYTD 2018	5,941	2,153	3,996	8,496	32,434	0	53,020

Other Than Mexicans (OTMs)	El Paso	Marfa	Del Rio	Laredo	RGV	Coastal Bend	TOTAL
CYTD 2018	3,478	1,212	1,594	2,205	24,593	0	33,082

Unaccompanied Alien Children (UACs)	FY 2017	FY 2016	FY 2015	FY 2014	FY 2013
Texas Border	31,827	47,192	31,109	58,312	27,827



MARFA SECTOR

On 04 MAR, a Terrell Co SO Deputy detained an IA at the entrance to a ranch southeast of Sanderson. The subject was referred to Sanderson USBP.

On 08 MAR, Marfa USBP Agents seized 289.825 lbs of marijuana and apprehended five IAs on a ranch northeast of Candelaria. The marijuana was found wrapped in duct tape and concealed in five burlap backpacks. One subject was wanted in Winkler Co on three warrants. The subjects and marijuana were turned over to Alpine DEA.



On 12 MAR, Marfa USBP Agents seized 290.97 lbs of marijuana and apprehended two subjects on a ranch northeast of Candelaria. Three subjects absconded from the area. The marijuana was found in five burlap backpacks. The subjects and marijuana were turned over to Alpine DEA.

MARFA SECTOR



On 13 MAR, Marfa USBP Agents seized 261.51 lbs of marijuana and apprehended eight IAs on a ranch southeast of Valentine. The marijuana was found in five burlap backpacks. The subjects and marijuana were turned over to Alpine DEA.

On 17 MAR, USBP Agents seized 278.26 lbs of marijuana and apprehended six IAs on a ranch northwest of Marfa. The marijuana was found in five large backpacks. Three subjects and the marijuana were referred to Presidio HSI, and the remaining three subjects were processed.



MARFA SECTOR

On 18 MAR, USBP Agents seized 248.19 lbs of marijuana and apprehended five IAs on a ranch north of Candelaria. The marijuana was found in five military-style duffel bags. The subjects and marijuana were referred to Alpine DEA.



On 20 MAR, USBP Agents seized 90.95 lbs of abandoned marijuana on a ranch near US-90, 11 miles northwest of Valentine. The marijuana was found in two burlap backpacks. Two subjects are believed to have absconded. The marijuana was referred to Alpine DEA.

DEL RIO SECTOR

In three incidents on 01 MAR and one on 04 MAR, a Kinney Co SO Scope Truck unit guided USBP agents to groups of suspected IAs on a ranch near Brackettville. Several of the subjects absconded, but the Agents apprehended a total of 17 IAs.

On 02 MAR, USBP Agents observed a group of subjects on a ranch near FM 2523, north of Del Rio. A CBP OAM Pilot found six IAs hiding in brush. The Agents identified one of the IAs as the human smuggler, arrested him, and referred him to HSI. The remaining IAs were processed.

On 03 MAR, a USBP Agent observed four pickups travelling in tandem on FM 481, east of Eagle Pass. The Agent conducted an inspection on a white 2008 Chevrolet Silverado pickup after it turned onto US-57, when the vehicle failed to yield. The vehicle drove through a ranch fence, and several occupants bailed out and absconded. The Agent searched the vehicle and seized a small amount of marijuana and a marijuana pipe. The contraband was turned over to DEA. The Agent impounded the vehicle.

On 07 MAR, a Zavala Co SO Deputy conducted a traffic stop on a silver 2007 Chevrolet Tahoe on US-57, east of Batesville. The driver had a warrant from Caldwell Co for a probation violation. The driver refused to exit the vehicle, and then sped off. The Deputy pursued the vehicle until the driver drove onto a ranch, where his vehicle got stuck. The Deputy arrested the driver for evading arrest/detention, and for the probation violation warrant. The vehicle was impounded.

DEL RIO SECTOR



On 07 MAR, USBP Agents observed a group of subjects on a ranch near RR 693 in Brackettville. DPS AVN assisted and helped guide other Agents to the group. The subjects were identified as three IAs and processed.

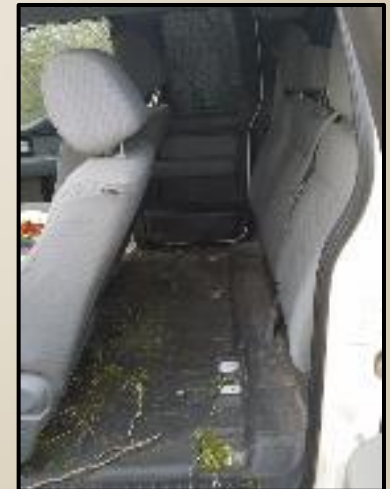
On 08 MAR, a TPWD Game Warden received a call from a ranch owner regarding several subjects. With the assistance of a Crockett Co SO Deputy and a Pecos Co SO Deputy, six IAs were apprehended on CR 208, north of US-190. The IAs were referred to USBP and processed.

DEL RIO SECTOR



On 19 MAR, a THP Trooper conducted a traffic stop on a silver 2015 Ford F-150 pickup in Catarina, when a pursuit ensued. The vehicle drove through a fence, and the driver bailed out and absconded. The vehicle, which was reported stolen from San Antonio, was impounded. A Dimmit Co SO Deputy assisted, but the driver could not be located.

On 13 MAR, a Dimmit Co SO Deputy conducted a traffic stop on a white 2013 Ford F-150 pickup that was travelling in tandem with another vehicle on US-277 in Carrizo Springs. The pickup failed to yield, and a pursuit ensued. The pickup drove through the 3S Oilfield near SL-517, and several subjects bailed out and absconded. The pickup was impounded.



DEL RIO SECTOR

On 14 MAR, a Dimmit Co SO Deputy responded to a call from a ranch owner who reported an abandoned white 2006 Chevrolet Express on a ranch along SH-85 in Big Wells. The vehicle, which was reported stolen from Austin, was impounded.

On 16 MAR, a Kinney Co SO Deputy conducted a traffic stop on a green 2003 Chevrolet Suburban on FM 334 in Brackettville. The vehicle stopped and two passengers bailed out and absconded by climbing over a ranch fence. The Deputy detained the driver until USBP Agents could assist. The Deputy arrested the driver for human smuggling and Driving While License Invalid, and impounded the vehicle.

On 26 MAR, USBP Agents apprehended a group of four IAs on a ranch along US-90 in Comstock. One IA was identified as the human smuggler, and was arrested for human smuggling. All subjects were processed.

LAREDO SECTOR

On 09 MAR, Hebbronville USBP Agents encountered a Dodge Ram 5500 pickup parked at the gate of a ranch near Hebbronville. As the Agents approached the vehicle, the driver bailed out and fled into brush. The Agents apprehended the driver and found 1,728.20 lbs of marijuana in the vehicle. The driver, narcotics, and vehicle were turned over to DEA.



On 08 MAR, Cotulla USBP Agents encountered a stolen 2014 Ram 1500 pickup heading southbound on IH-35 near Pearsall. The vehicle drove through a fence onto a ranch near Dilley, and was found abandoned. The vehicle, which had been stolen from San Antonio, was turned over to Frio Co SO.

On 20 MAR, Laredo USBP Agents responded to a call regarding a Ford F-150 pickup with possible IAs. When the Agents encountered the vehicle, it drove off the road and through a fence. The vehicle was later located abandoned, and identified as stolen from Austin. The Agents apprehended three subjects in the area.

LAREDO SECTOR

On 21 MAR, Hebbronville USBP Agents responded to reports of an abandoned 2016 Ford F-150 pickup on a ranch near Hebbronville. The vehicle was stolen from San Antonio. A search of the area resulted in the apprehension of 15 IAs. The vehicle was recovered, and the IAs were processed.

On 21 MAR, Hebbronville USBP Agents responded to a ranch near Hebbronville regarding an abandoned white 2002 Ford F-250 pickup that had been involved in a pursuit and bailout with Duval Co SO. The vehicle was stolen from San Antonio.

On 23 MAR, Cotulla USBP Agents encountered a 2010 Ford F-250 pickup that had crashed through a fence along US-83 near Cotulla. The vehicle, which was reported stolen from San Antonio, was seized by Dimmit Co SO.

On 27 MAR, USBP Agents encountered a 2018 Ford F-350 pickup on IH-35 near Dilley. The vehicle exited the highway and increased speed before driving through a fence and brush five miles west of Dilley. The Agents found the vehicle abandoned about 100 yards from the road. The vehicle was stolen from San Antonio. Frio Co SO took possession of the vehicle.

RIO GRANDE VALLEY

DPS AVN assisted THP Troopers with a pursuit involving an armed subject and located the subject's vehicle crossing an open field in southern Hidalgo County. The subject lost control of the vehicle, crashed into a fence, and bailed out and fled. The subject then displayed a weapon and held it to his head. The subject, who had also been involved in a carjacking, was taken into custody without further incident.



A Brooks Co SO Deputy responded to a ranch in southwestern Brooks County regarding a deceased person. A USBP Agent escorted the Deputy to the location.

RIO GRANDE VALLEY



Weslaco USBP Agents seized 46.34 lbs of marijuana. The Agents responded to an alert near Donna, and found 14 subjects hiding in an onion field. A search of the area yielded two abandoned bundles of marijuana. The subjects were taken to the Weslaco Station for processing, and the marijuana was seized and turned over to DEA.

A Brooks Co SO Deputy responded to a ranch in northern Brooks County regarding human skeletal remains that had been discovered by USBP. The remains were turned over to the medical examiner's office.



RIO GRANDE VALLEY

McAllen USBP Agents seized 25.35 lbs of marijuana in 13 bundles. The Agents responded to an alert near La Joya, when a K-9 alerted to a fence log on the ground. Upon inspecting the log, the Agents determined it had been hollowed out and contained 13 bundles of marijuana. The marijuana was referred to DEA.



DRAWBRIDGE

On 11 MAR, Van Horn USBP Agents responding to a Drawbridge alert, seized 164.30 lbs of marijuana and apprehended an IA on a ranch south of Allamore. Three other subjects absconded. The marijuana was found in three burlap backpacks and wrapped in packing tape. The subject was processed and the marijuana was turned over to El Paso DEA.



On 20 MAR, a USBP Agent was dispatched to a ranch west of Catarina regarding a Drawbridge alert. The Agent conducted an inspection on a black 2017 Ford F-250 pickup, but the pickup failed to yield. The pickup drove into brush, and the driver bailed out and absconded. The pickup displayed stolen license plates, and was reported stolen from San Antonio. A Dimmit Co SO Deputy impounded the pickup.





Total Pursuits and Bailouts (CY2014 - Present)*

Event	El Paso	Marfa	Del Rio	Laredo	Rio Grande Valley	Coastal Bend	TOTAL
Pursuits	3	84	627	389	1,637	602	3,342
Bailouts	5	98	801	675	1,505	564	3,648

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



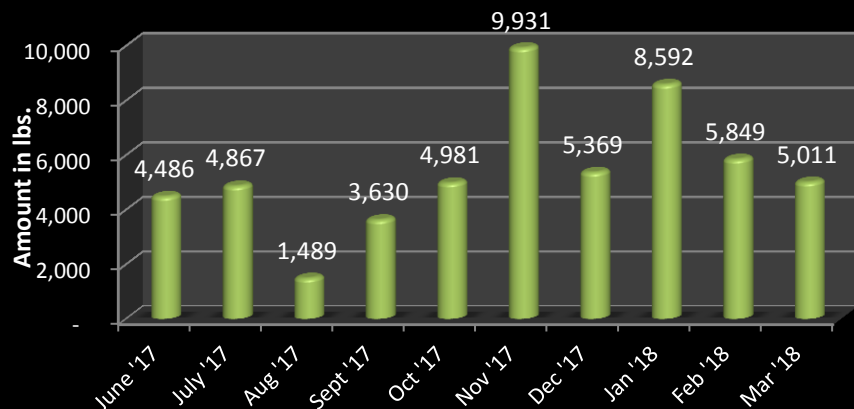


OPERATION DRAWBRIDGE

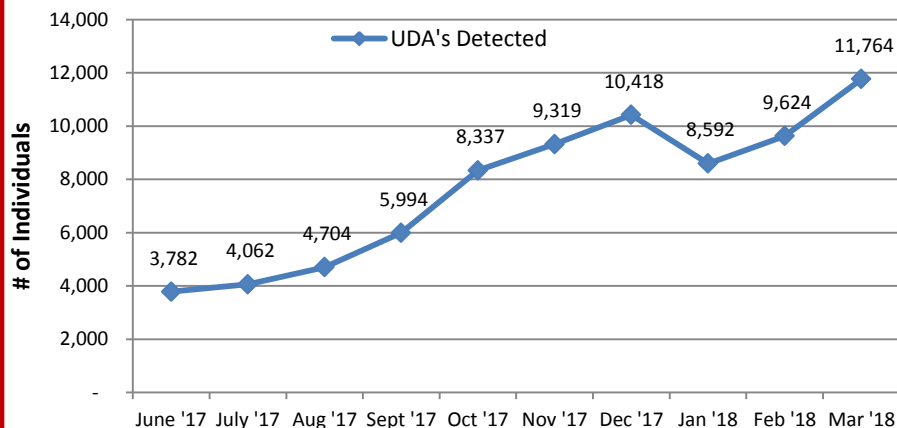
Statistical Summary – MAR 2018



Drawbridge Initiated Marijuana Seizures



Drawbridge Stats



Operation Drawbridge Totals: JAN 2012 – MAR 2018

Detections	378,158
Marijuana Seized	457,350 lbs (>228 tons)
Cocaine Seized	227 lbs
Methamphetamine Seized	15 lbs
Heroin Seized	2 lbs
Firearms Seized	30

Operation Drawbridge Totals: CYTD 2018

Detections	30,249
Narcotics Seized	19,452 lbs (>9 tons)

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



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

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BORDER SECURITY OPERATIONS CENTER



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