

# **Border Operations Sector Assessment**

South Texas  
Ranch Edition

**March 2016**

**REPORTING PERIOD:  
01-31 MARCH 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 March 31, 2016: 31

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. To download iWatch, click on your appropriate operating system below.

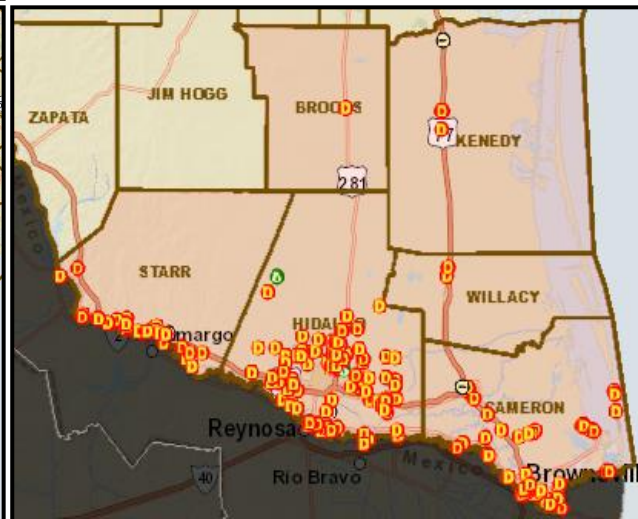
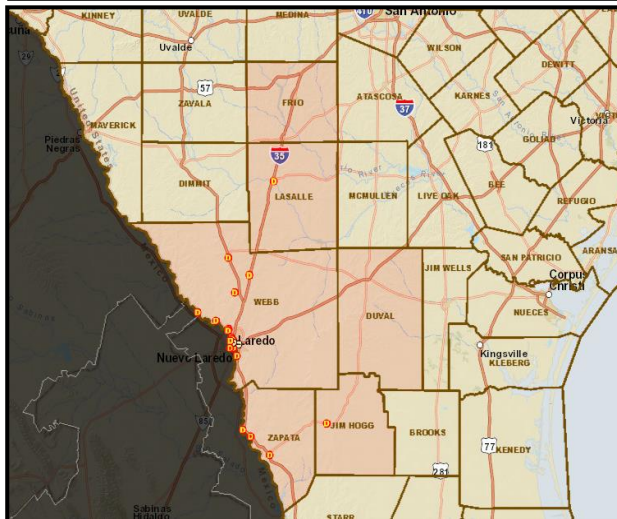
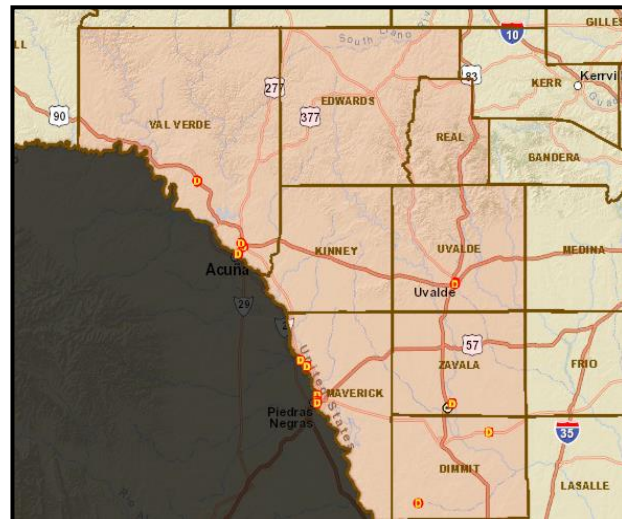
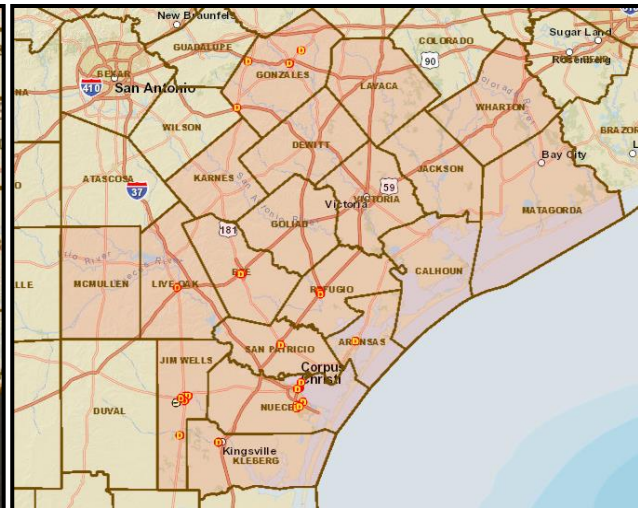
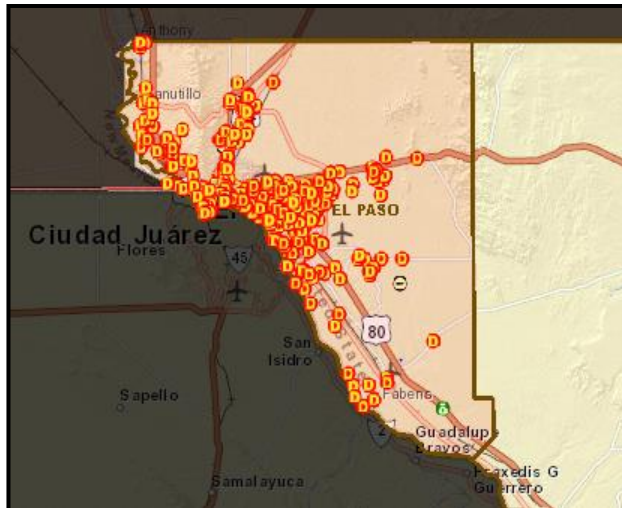


## OPERATION BORDER STAR

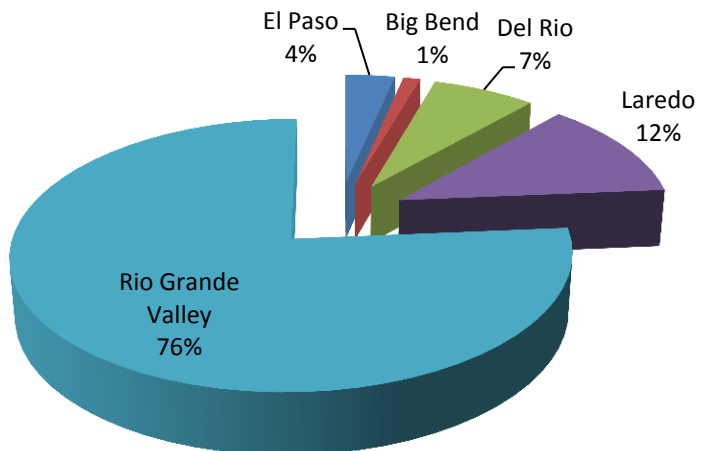
JOIC Contact Information	Border Security Ops Ctr (Austin, TX)	El Paso JOIC (El Paso, TX)	Big Bend JOIC (Marfa, TX)	Del Rio Sector (Del Rio, TX)	Laredo Sector (Laredo, TX)	Rio Grande Valley Sector (McAllen, TX)	Coastal Bend Sector (Victoria, TX)
Main Phone #	(512) 454-7561	(915) 680-6500	(432) 729-4506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



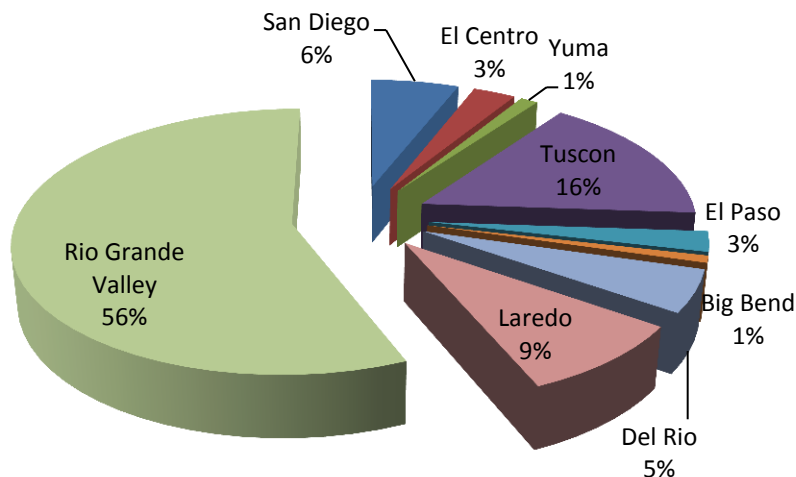
CY To Date – 2016	El Paso	Marfa	Del Rio	Laredo	RGV	Coastal Bend	TOTAL	2014 ONDCP Adjusted Value (Approximate)
Marijuana (~lbs)	7,192	4316.50	30.0	8,006	27,340	16	46,901	\$2 Million
Cocaine (~lbs)	47	3	10	119	601	0.5	782	\$ 48 Million
Methamphetamine (~lbs)	59	23	41	70	474	0.03	669	\$58 Million
Heroin (~lbs)	9.8	0.04	6	37	18	0.01	72	\$9 Million



## Texas Sector Apprehensions

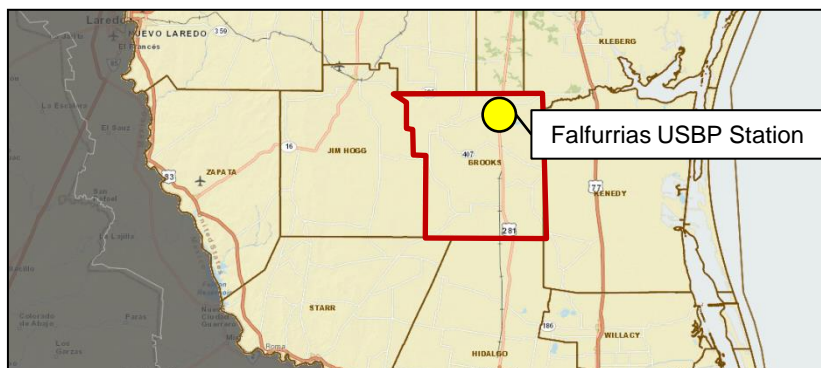


## Southwest Border Sector Apprehensions



IAAs	El Paso	Marfa	Del Rio	Laredo	RGV	Coastal Bend	TOTAL
YTD-2016	4,426	979	5,120	8,782	32,493	0	51,800
OTMs	El Paso	Marfa	Del Rio	Laredo	RGV	Coastal Bend	TOTAL
YTD-2016	1,429	448	1,891	2,044	21,824	0	27,636

Unaccompanied Alien Children	FY-2015	FY-2014	FY-2013	FY-2012	FY-2011
Texas Border	31,109	58,312	27,827	15,485	9,871



Human smugglers circumvent inland US Border Patrol checkpoints easily by walking around them through ranches and farms.  
**Since 2009, 483 human remains have been located in Brooks County.**





# MARFA SECTOR

Sanderson USBP Agents seized 577.15 lbs of marijuana and arrested seven IAs west of Shafter Crossing Road near a ranch, southeast of Dryden, TX. Two IAs absconded. The subjects and marijuana were referred to Eagle Pass DEA.



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Sanderson USBP Agents seized 114.40 lbs of marijuana abandoned on a ranch, southeast of Marathon, TX. The marijuana was referred to Alpine DEA.



# MARFA SECTOR

Marfa USBP Agents arrested six IAs walking on a ranch, northeast of Candelaria, TX. Two subjects were held in Marfa pending prosecution and four subjects were processed for removal.

Marfa USBP Agents seized 143.85 lbs of marijuana abandoned on a ranch, southeast of Candelaria. The marijuana was located inside three burlap backpacks. The narcotics were referred to Alpine DEA.



Marfa USBP Agents seized 343.35 lbs of marijuana and arrested six IAs on a ranch, east of Candelaria. The subjects were located hiding in the brush. The marijuana was located inside six white sugar sacks near the subjects. The subjects and marijuana were referred to Alpine DEA.





# MARFA SECTOR

Marfa USBP Agents arrested 11 IAs on a ranch, northwest of Shafter. The subjects were processed for removal.

Marfa USBP Agents, with assistance from a THP Trooper, arrested an IA on a ranch, near Valentine, TX. The subject was processed for removal.

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Terrell Co SO Deputies responded to a ranch in Terrell Co concerning a burglary. The rancher reported only food and water items were taken. The SO is investigating the incident.



# DEL RIO SECTOR

On 02 MAR, USBP Agents apprehended five IAs hiding in the brush on a ranch, south of Eagle Pass, TX.

On 07 MAR, a Dimmit Co SO Deputy conducted a traffic stop on a red 2002 Chevrolet Silverado pickup in Catarina, TX, when a pursuit ensued. On FM-133, east of US-83, the driver drove through a fence and onto a ranch. The Deputy apprehended a subject, who was later identified by USBP Agents as an IA. The vehicle was impounded.

On 07 MAR, a Kinney Co SO Deputy conducted a traffic stop on a white 2007 Chevrolet Silverado pickup on FM-131, north of Spofford, TX, when a pursuit ensued. The vehicle drove through a ranch fence line. The Deputy lost sight of the vehicle and was unable to locate it.

On 09 MAR, a Dimmit Co SO Deputy conducted a traffic stop on a white 1996 Ford F-150 pickup that had been observed driving in tandem with a black 2004 Chevrolet Avalanche on SH-85, west of Big Wells, TX, when a pursuit ensued. The F-150 crashed into a ranch fence post on SH-85, and 21 subjects bailed out and absconded. Approximately an hour after the crash, the Deputy saw the Avalanche pass the crash site, and conducted a traffic stop on SH-85, west of Big Wells, TX. The Deputy arrested one passenger. The driver and the second passenger were released with the vehicle. During questioning, the arrested subject admitted to being a scout for the F-150.





# DEL RIO SECTOR

On 10 MAR, a USBP Agent found a duffel bag on a ranch, west of US-277, Eagle Pass, TX. The bag contained 54.4 lbs of marijuana, and was turned over to DEA.

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On 11 MAR, Dimmit Co SO Deputies conducted a traffic stop on five vehicles on FM-186, southwest of Carrizo Springs, TX. The vehicles a gray 2010 Ford F-150 pickup, a silver 2014 Ford F-150 pickup, a maroon 2003 Ford F-250 pickup, a silver 2016 Dodge Ram 1500 pickup, and a white 2009 Ford F-350 Econoline van. The van failed to yield, and multiple pursuits ensued. The F-250, Ram, and Econoline drove onto a ranch at different locations. The occupants of the three vehicles bailed out. The other two vehicles drove onto a ranch, and the occupants bailed out. USBP Agents responded to assist and apprehended 24 IAs. The 2010 F-150 was reported stolen out of Pflugerville, TX. The 2014 F-150, the F-250, and the Ram were reported stolen out of Austin, TX. The Econoline was not reported stolen at the time of the incident. Dimmit Co SO impounded the vehicles.



# DEL RIO SECTOR

On 11 MAR, a Dimmit Co SO Deputy was dispatched to a ranch in Catarina, TX, regarding a black 2007 Ford F-150 pickup that had been involved in a bailout with the USBP. The vehicle was reported stolen out of Austin, TX, and was impounded.



On 20 MAR, a Dimmit Co SO Deputy conducted a stop on a silver 2001 Honda Odyssey, traveling east on SH-85, when a pursuit ensued. The vehicle drove onto a ranch on SH-85, east of FM-468, Big Wells, TX and the occupants bailed out and absconded. The USBP was notified, and the vehicle was impounded.





# LAREDO SECTOR

On 21 MAR, USBP Hebbronville Agents encountered a Ford F-250 pickup. The vehicle was stolen from Houston, TX. Agents conducted a traffic stop, when a pursuit ensued. The vehicle drove into a deer proof fence at a ranch, near Hebbronville, TX. The driver and several IAs were apprehended.

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On 26 MAR, Duval Co SO observed a 2005 GMC SUV fail to stop, when a pursuit ensued. The SUV ran through a ranch fence and five occupants bailed out. One passenger identified as an IA had a head injury.



# RIO GRANDE VALLEY

Hidalgo Co SO Deputies responded to a ranch regarding a deceased person. The case is being investigated, and an autopsy will be conducted on the human remains/bones.

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A Brooks Co SO Deputy responded to a ranch, near Falfurrias, TX, regarding human remains discovered by USBP Agents. The Webb Co Medical Examiner's Office assumed custody of the remains.



A Brooks Co SO Deputy met with USBP Agents on a ranch, near Falfurrias, TX, regarding human remains. The remains were transported to the Webb Co Medical Examiner for an autopsy.



# RIO GRANDE VALLEY

A Kenedy Co SO Deputy responded to a ranch, near Sarita, TX, regarding a deceased person found by USBP Agents. The remains were intact, clothed with a Guatemalan birth certificate in the pants pocket, but no other property on or near the body. The Justice of the Peace and the Guatemalan Consulate were notified.

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A Brooks CO SO Deputy responded to a ranch, near La India, TX, regarding human skeletal remains that had been found by USBP Agents. The Deputy found an ID card near the remains.

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Kenedy Co SO responded to the Kenedy Ranch regarding skeletal remains found on a pasture. Several bones were lying near a small group of oak trees.

Kenedy Co SO responded to a call at a pasture regarding skeletal remains. Deputies arrived on scene, along with the JP, who pronounced the subject dead.





2014–Present	El Paso	Marfa	Del Rio	Laredo	Rio Grande Valley	Coastal Bend	TOTAL
Pursuits	3	49	377	227	1,110	499	2,265
Bailouts	0	61	510	324	1,040	460	2,395





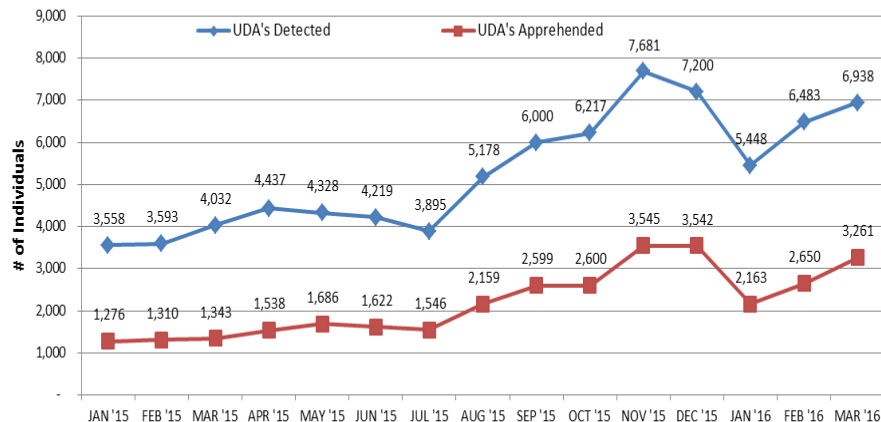


# OPERATION DRAWBRIDGE

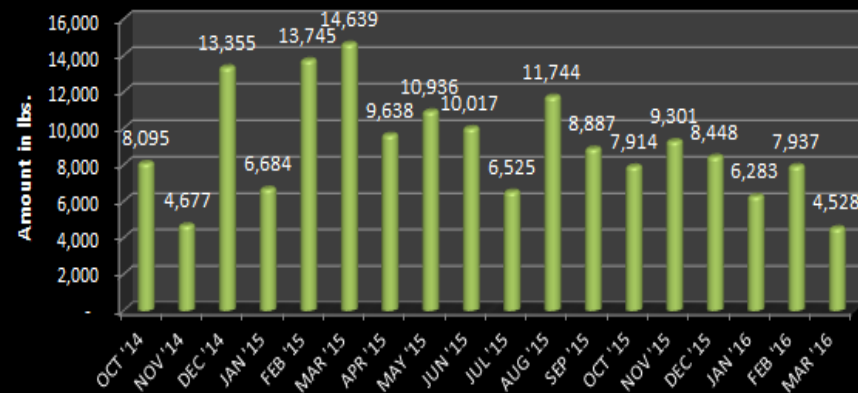
Statistical Summary – MAR 2016



Drawbridge Stats



Drawbridge Initiated Marijuana Seizures



OPERATION DRAWBRIDGE TOTALS: JAN 2012 – MAR 2016

Detections	189943
Apprehensions	85424
Marijuana Seized	326,187(~168 tons)
Cocaine Seized	205 lbs
Meth Seized	17 lbs
Heroin Seized	2 lbs
Firearms Seized	27

OPERATION DRAWBRIDGE TOTALS: CY 2016

Detections	11,931
Apprehensions	4,813
Narcotics Seized	14,222 lbs (~7 tons)



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

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



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