

Border Operations Sector Assessment

South Texas
Ranch Edition

**February
2019**

**REPORTING PERIOD:
01-28 FEB 2019**



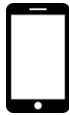
TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY BORDER SECURITY OPERATIONS CENTER



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.



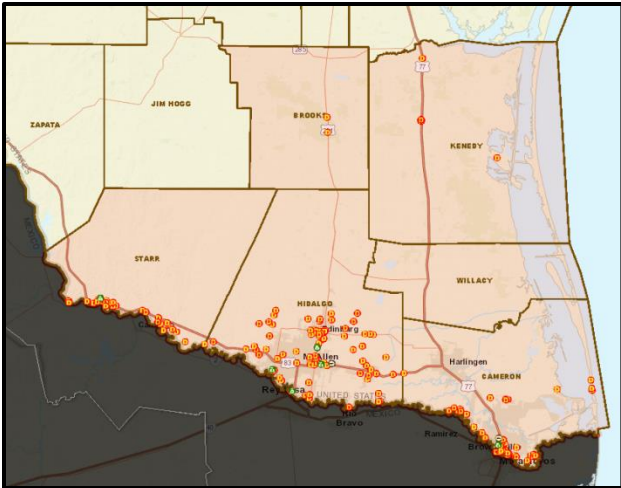
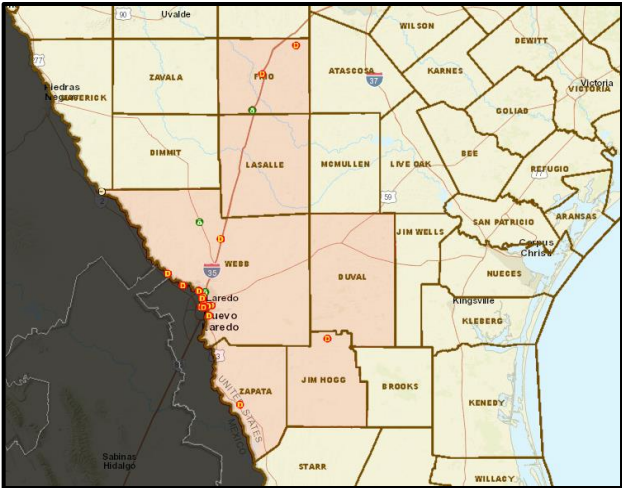
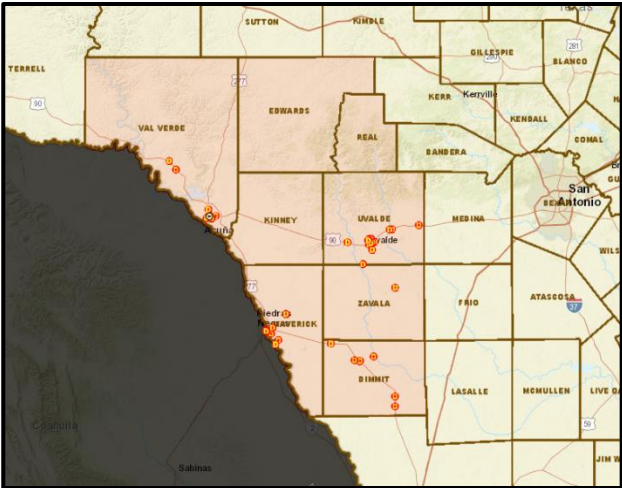
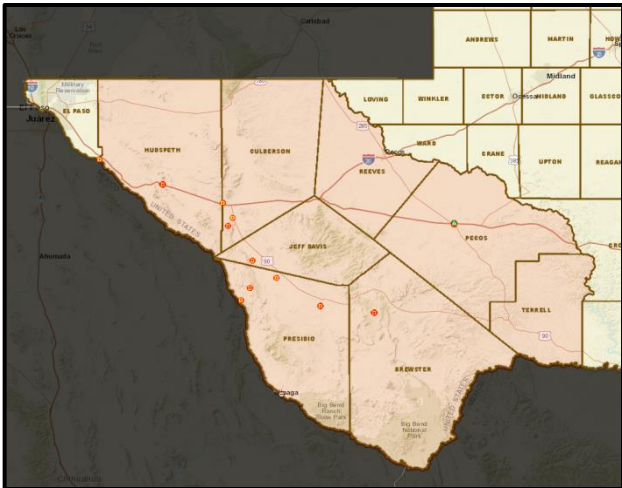
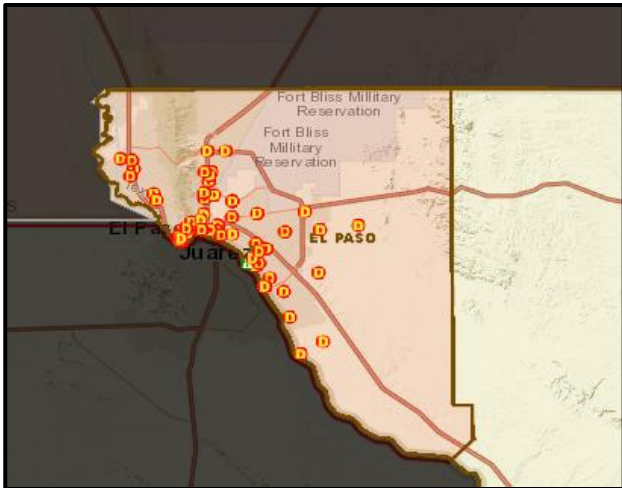
You may use the [Texas DPS iWatch](#) to report suspicious activities or behaviors that may indicate criminal or terrorist activity, such as drug smuggling, human smuggling, oil field thefts, and other criminal activity. Every report will be reviewed by analysts. You may also contact DPS at 1-866-786-5972,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



OPERATION BORDER STAR

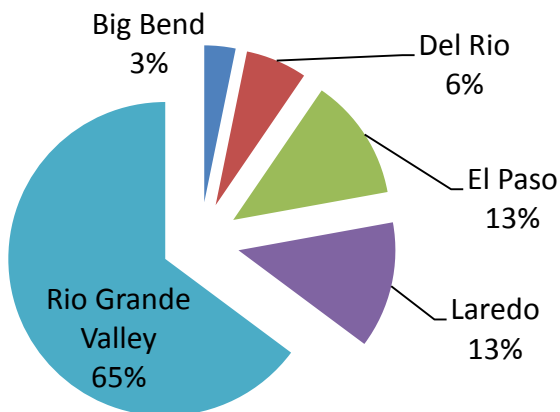
JOIC Contact Information	Border Security Ops Ctr (Austin)	El Paso JOIC (El Paso)	Big Bend JOIC (Marfa)	Del Rio Sector (Del Rio)	Laredo Sector (Laredo)	Rio Grande Valley Sector (McAllen)	Coastal Bend Sector (Victoria)
Main Phone #	(512) 454-7561	(915) 680-6500	(432) 729-4506	(830) 778-7837	(956) 764-3181	(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 2019	El Paso	Marfa	Del Rio	Laredo	RGV	Coastal Bend	TOTAL
Marijuana (lbs)	14,606	6,287	2,475	33,269	36,887	386	93,909
Cocaine (lbs)	111	44	< 1	531	1,298	27	2,010
Methamphetamine (lbs)	381	45	102	745	2,431	< 1	3,705
Heroin (lbs)	12	< 1	14	42	26	--	94

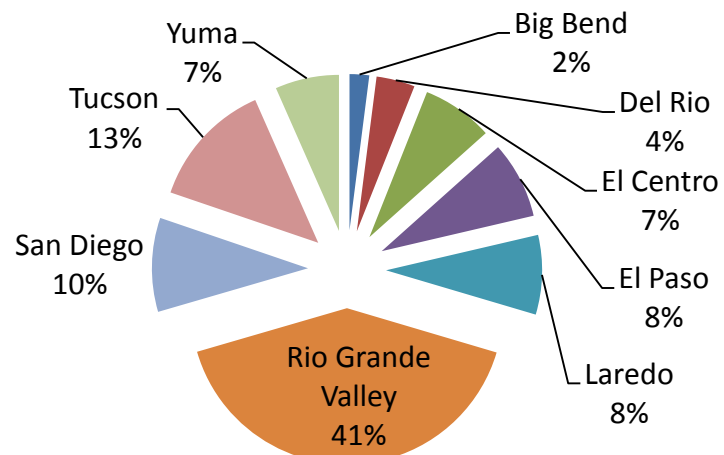




**Texas Border Sector Apprehensions
FY2018 (OCT-SEP)**



**Southwest Border Sector Apprehensions
FY2018 (OCT-SEP)**

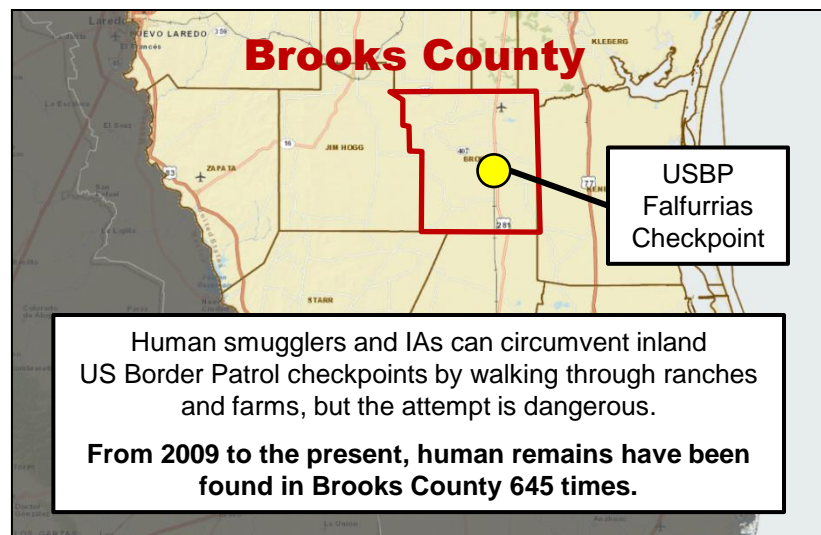


For more information, visit the USBP website at: <https://www.cbp.gov>

Illegal Aliens (IAs)	El Paso	Marfa	Del Rio	Laredo	RGV	Coastal Bend	TOTAL
CYTD 2019	17,451	1,491	6,885	5,739	43,697	0	75,263

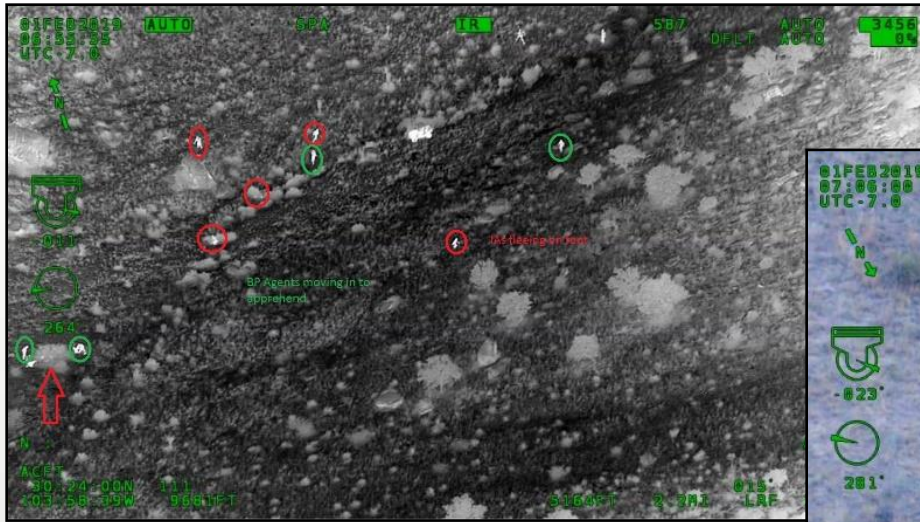
Other Than Mexicans (OTMs)	El Paso	Marfa	Del Rio	Laredo	RGV	Coastal Bend	TOTAL
CYTD 2019	16,052	935	5,327	1,689	39,034	0	63,037

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 01 FEB, USBP, assisted by DPS AVN, apprehended 17 IAs on a ranch northeast of Marfa. Two of the subjects fled, but were apprehended with the others.



On 11 FEB, USBP Agents, assisted by Brewster Co SO Deputies, apprehended six IAs on a ranch southeast of Marathon.

MARFA SECTOR

On 12 FEB, USBP Agents, assisted by CBP OAM, responded to a call from a ranch west of Marfa, seized 211.01 lbs of marijuana, and apprehended four IAs, one of whom was identified as a Paisas gang member. A load driver was apprehended in a red Peterbilt TTST on US-90. The vehicle was seized. A total of five subjects, the vehicle, and marijuana were referred to Alpine DEA.



On 16 FEB, USBP Agents, assisted by DPS AVN, apprehended 11 IAs near a ranch southeast of Marathon.

On 18 FEB, TPWD Game Wardens detained two IAs on a ranch southeast of Marathon. The subjects were referred to USBP.

DEL RIO SECTOR

On 01 FEB, a Dimmit Co SO Deputy conducted a traffic stop on a silver 2014 Ford F-250 pickup on US-83, north of Catarina, when a pursuit ensued. The vehicle was driven through a ranch fence, and the driver bailed out and absconded. USBP Agents assisted with the search. The vehicle was reported stolen from Austin with a handgun inside. The Deputy impounded the vehicle, but no handgun was found.



On 02 FEB, a Dimmit Co SO Deputy conducted a traffic stop on a white 2007 Cadillac Escalade on US-83, south of Asherton, when a pursuit ensued. The vehicle stopped outside a ranch in Catarina, and 21 occupants bailed out and fled. The Deputy detained three IAs. USBP Agents searched the area, but the other occupants had absconded. The three IAs were processed, and the Deputy impounded the vehicle.

On 03 FEB, a USBP Agent was dispatched to FM 186 south of Carrizo Springs regarding a concerned citizen who had observed several subjects enter a white 2009 Chevrolet Silverado pickup. The Agent conducted a traffic stop on the vehicle, when it failed to yield. The vehicle was driven toward a ranch and struck a tree. The Agent apprehended two IAs from the vehicle, and the IA driver was identified as the human smuggler. The driver was arrested for Illegal Re-entry After Deportation, and both IAs were processed. The vehicle was impounded.

DEL RIO SECTOR

On 05 FEB, USBP Agents observed a group of IAs on a ranch near Comstock and suspected that they had been picked up by a 2007 Toyota Tundra pickup. The Agents located the vehicle, and conducted a traffic stop, but the vehicle failed to yield. The vehicle continued toward Sanderson, and stopped on US-90. The driver bailed out and fled, but was apprehended the following morning. With the assistance of Terrell Co SO Deputies, USBP Agents were also able to apprehend six IAs. One of the IAs was identified as the human smuggler.

On 06 FEB, a Dimmit Co SO Deputy conducted a traffic stop on a 2015 Chevrolet Silverado pickup on US-83, when a pursuit ensued. The vehicle was driven through a ranch fence, and the occupants bailed out and absconded. The vehicle had fictitious license plates and registration, the door lock had been tampered with, and the back seats had been removed. The vehicle was reported stolen from San Antonio.



On 07 FEB, DPS Aviation assisted USBP with the apprehension of nine IAs. Two IAs who had crossed the River were apprehended by USBP in Eagle Pass. Another group of seven IAs was apprehended on a ranch near Del Rio.

DEL RIO SECTOR

On 11 FEB, a USBP Agent observed a 2017 Dodge Ram pickup driving back and forth past a ranch near La Pryor. A Zavala Co SO Deputy conducted a traffic stop. The Deputy suspected that the driver was scouting for either IAs or narcotics, but released him with the vehicle.

On 13 FEB, DPS AVN assisted USBP Agents in locating two subjects on a farming property in Eagle Pass. The subjects were identified as two IAs and processed.

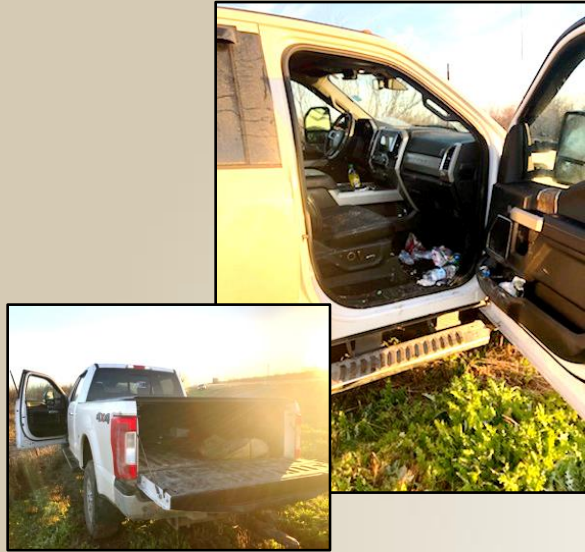
On 15 FEB, a Kinney Co SO Deputy observed a group of six subjects on a ranch near Pinto Creek. USBP Agents responded, and the group absconded into MX.

On 16 FEB, a Kinney Co SO Deputy directed USBP Agents to six IAs near a ranch gate on US-277. The Agents apprehended and processed the six subjects.



On 18 FEB, USBP Agents conducted a traffic stop on a silver 2011 Ford F-150 pickup on FM 468 in Big Wells. The vehicle crashed through a ranch fence and was found abandoned. The vehicle, which was reported stolen from Austin, was impounded by Dimmit Co SO.

DEL RIO SECTOR



On 20 FEB, a Dimmit Co SO Deputy conducted a traffic stop on a white 2018 Ford F-250 pickup on SH-85 near Carrizo Springs, when a pursuit ensued. The vehicle was driven through a ranch fence, and the driver bailed out and absconded. The Deputy detained nine IAs who were hiding in the bed of the pickup. The vehicle had a fictitious rear license plate, the back seat had been removed, and it was reported stolen from San Antonio. A USBP Agent processed the IAs, and the Deputy impounded the vehicle.

In two incidents on 21 FEB, Kinney Co SO Deputies alerted USBP Agents of multiple subjects on a ranch near Pinto Creek. CBP OAM assisted and guided the Agents to the subjects. A total of 10 IAs were apprehended.

On 21 FEB, a THP Trooper conducted a traffic stop on a black 2005 Ford Expedition on US-57 near Batesville. The vehicle was driven onto a farm, and ten occupants bailed out and absconded after the vehicle struck a fence.

DEL RIO SECTOR

On 21 FEB, a Dimmit Co SO Deputy conducted a traffic stop on a white 2015 Chevrolet Silverado pickup on FM 1867 near Big Wells, when a pursuit ensued. The pickup was driven through a ranch fence and was found abandoned. The investigation continues.

On 22 FEB, a Dimmit Co SO Deputy conducted a traffic stop on a silver 2018 Dodge Charger on US-277 near Carrizo Springs, when a pursuit ensued. The driver lost control of the vehicle at a rate of high speed, and crashed into a gate. The driver bailed out, but was apprehended by the Deputies and assisting USBP Agents. The driver had a warrant from Bexar Co for Possession of a Controlled Substance, and was identified as an SWTX ("South West Texas") gang member. Due to injuries, the subject was released to EMS. Multiple warrants were issued for the driver, and the vehicle was impounded.



On 22 FEB, a Dimmit Co SO Deputy conducted a traffic stop on a white 2015 Ford F-150 pickup on SH-85 near Carrizo Springs, when a pursuit ensued. The pickup was driven through a ranch fence, and was not found. The pickup was identified as stolen from San Antonio.

DEL RIO SECTOR



On 23 FEB, a Dimmit Co SO Deputy conducted a traffic stop on a white 2016 Dodge Ram pickup on SH-85 near Carrizo Springs, when a pursuit ensued. The pickup was driven through a ranch fence. The vehicle was found abandoned on another ranch near FM 190 south of Brundage. The vehicle was displaying fictitious LPs, and the rear seat was missing.

On 23 FEB, a USBP Agent apprehended five IAs who were hiding in the brush on a ranch near Eagle Pass. The Agent identified one of the IAs as an MS-13 gang member. The gang member was arrested for Illegal Entry, and the remaining IAs were processed.

On 25 FEB, a USBP Agent conducted a traffic stop on a white 2010 Ford F-150 pickup on FM 1025 near Crystal City. The pickup failed to yield and was driven through a fence onto a ranch west of Pearsall. The occupants bailed out. The Agent apprehended ten IAs, but the driver absconded. The IAs were processed, and a Frio Co SO Deputy impounded the vehicle.

LAREDO SECTOR



On 01 FEB, Cotulla USBP Agents responded to a Drawbridge activation and found a gray 2014 Ford F-150 pickup that had been abandoned on a ranch near Cotulla. The vehicle was identified as stolen from Austin and referred to La Salle Co SO.

On 06 FEB, Webb Co Constable Pct. 3 Deputies conducted a traffic stop on a 2003 Chevrolet Silverado pickup near Aguilares, when a pursuit ensued. When the vehicle came to a stop at a fence, 12 subjects absconded. The driver and an IA were apprehended. USBP was notified, and apprehended an additional 10 IAs. The driver was arrested, and the 11 IAs were processed. The vehicle was stolen from Fort Worth.

On 12 FEB, Jim Hogg Co SO Deputies conducted a traffic stop on a silver 2009 Dodge Charger, when a pursuit ensued. When the vehicle came to a brief stop, one of the occupants bailed out and absconded. The vehicle was then driven through a fence, and the driver bailed out and absconded. No apprehensions were made, but the vehicle was seized.

LAREDO SECTOR

On 13 FEB, Laredo North USBP Agents observed five subjects carrying bundles toward a ranch near Laredo. As the Agents approached, the subjects dropped the bundles and absconded into MX. A search of the area revealed three abandoned bundles of marijuana concealed in the brush. The 242.50 lbs of marijuana was referred to DEA.



On 14 FEB, Laredo North USBP Agents recovered an abandoned white 2019 Chevrolet Silverado 2500 pickup from a ranch west of Encinal. The vehicle was identified as stolen from Portland, TX. The Agents searched the area and apprehended seven IAs. Webb Co SO Deputies assisted with recovering the vehicle.

On 24 FEB, Freer USBP Agents conducted a traffic stop on a 2014 Ford F-250 pickup at a ranch near Bruni. The vehicle was driven off the road and through the ranch gate. When the vehicle stopped, the occupants bailed out and fled. Five IAs were apprehended. The vehicle was reported stolen from Dublin, TX.

RIO GRANDE VALLEY

On 06 and 07 FEB, Hidalgo Co Constable Pct. 3 Deputies detained a total of 188 IAs near a farm complex in Mission in two incidents. The subjects were referred to USBP.

On 11 FEB, a Brooks Co SO Deputy responded to a report of human skeletal remains found on a ranch in Falfurrias. The Deputy was escorted to the location, photographs were taken, and personal effects that had been found at the scene were collected.

On 14 FEB, a Brooks Co SO Deputy responded to a ranch in Falfurrias regarding human skeletal remains. The remains were referred to the Webb Co Medical Examiner's Office.

On 14 FEB, a Roma PD Officer assisted USBP with a pursuit of a 2000 Chevrolet Impala that ended with a bailout after the vehicle crashed into a fence. USBP took custody of the driver and two IAs.

On 17 FEB, a Brooks Co SO Deputy responded to a ranch on CR 111 regarding human remains that had been discovered by USBP Agents. The body was found face-down in a wooded area. Several personal items, including a cell phone, were found near the body. The body was referred to the Webb Co Medical Examiner's Office.

COASTAL BEND SECTOR

On 21 FEB, a Gonzales Co SO Deputy encountered a silver 2008 Honda Civic that had stopped on a ranch in Leesville. The driver had a warrant for his arrest. The female passenger exited the vehicle, but did not flee. The driver fled briefly in the vehicle before bailing out and absconding into the ranch. The Deputy had the vehicle towed, and released the female subject to her mother.





Total Pursuits and Bailouts (CY2014 - Present)*

Event	El Paso	Marfa	Del Rio	Laredo	Rio Grande Valley	Coastal Bend	TOTAL
Pursuits	3	108	757	470	1,851	641	3,830
Bailouts	5	116	956	887	1,689	626	4,279

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



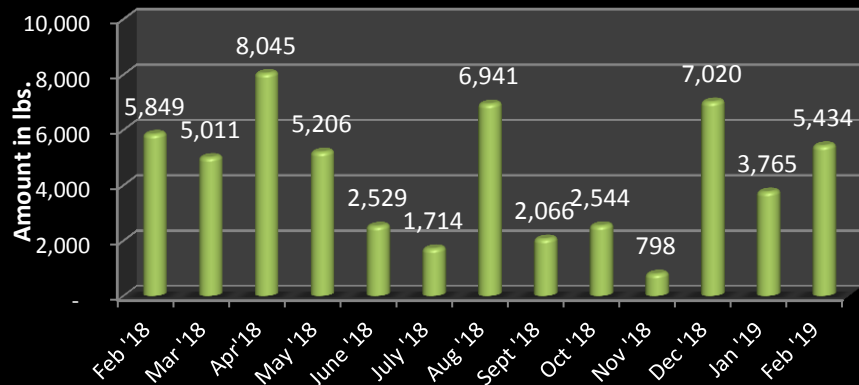


OPERATION DRAWBRIDGE

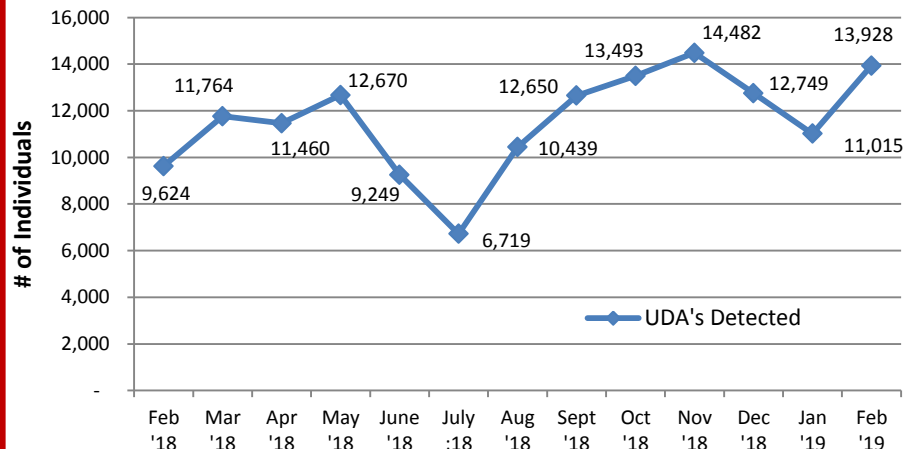
Statistical Summary – FEB 2019



Drawbridge Initiated Marijuana Seizures



Drawbridge Stats



Operation Drawbridge Totals: JAN 2012 – FEB 2019

Detections	507,012
Marijuana Seized	503,412 lbs (>251 tons)
Cocaine Seized	510 lbs
Methamphetamine Seized	30 lbs
Heroin Seized	2 lbs
Firearms Seized	38

Operation Drawbridge Totals: CYTD 2019

Detections	24,943
Narcotics Seized	9,199 lbs

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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