

Border Operations Sector Assessment

South Texas
Ranch Edition

**April
2019**

**REPORTING PERIOD:
01-30 APR 2019**



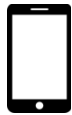
TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY BORDER SECURITY OPERATIONS CENTER



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.



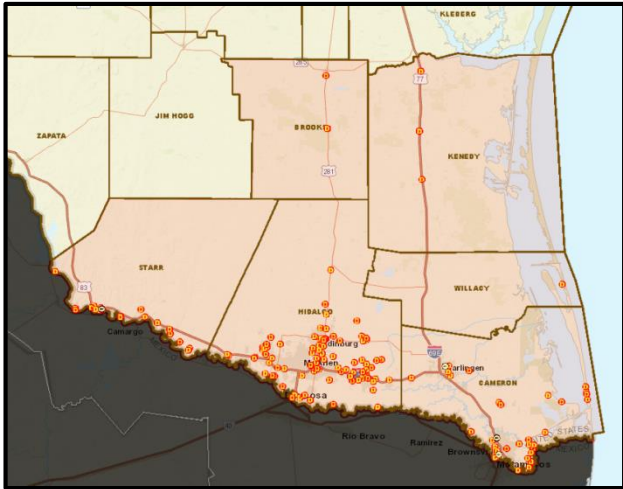
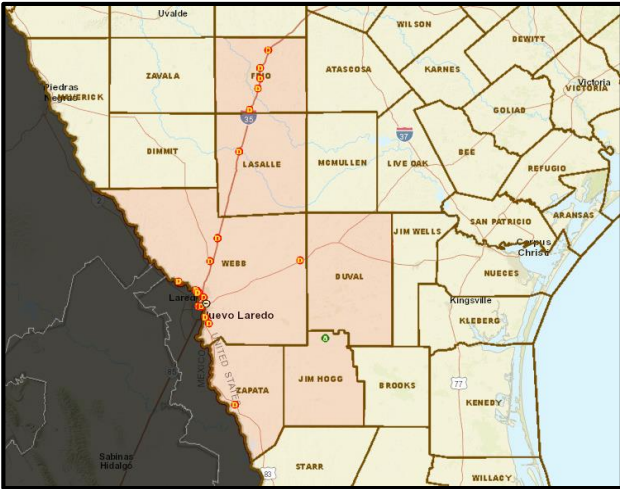
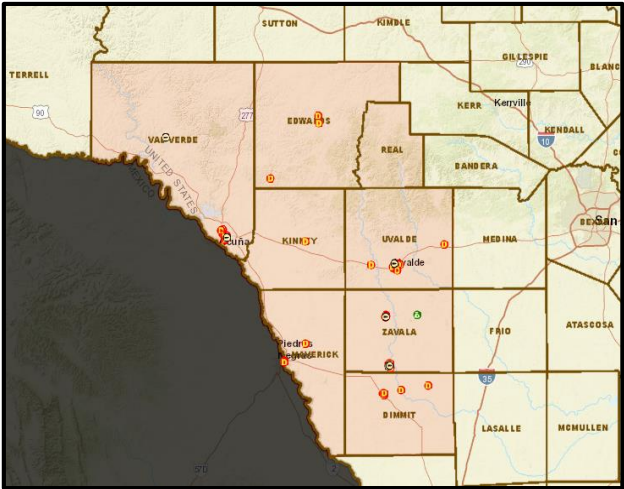
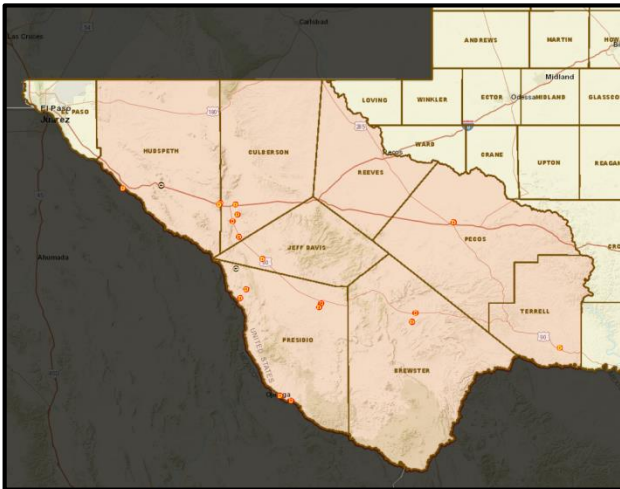
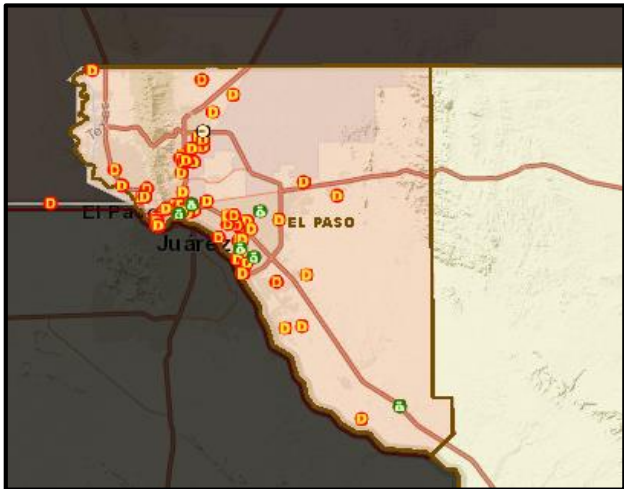
OPERATION BORDER STAR

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

Ranch Border Operations Sector Assessment

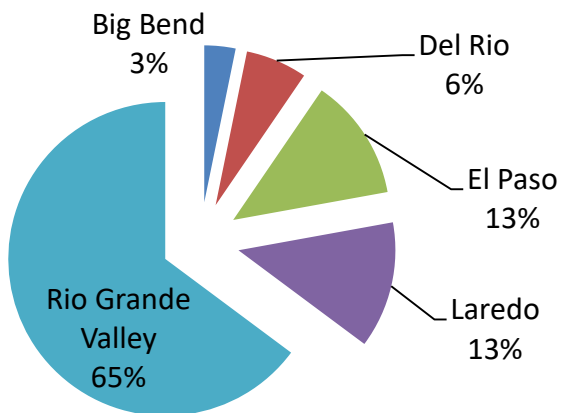


Seizures – CYTD 2019	El Paso	Marfa	Del Rio	Laredo	RGV	Coastal Bend	TOTAL
Marijuana (lbs)	24,015	9,160	3,872	52,098	56,349	398	145,892
Cocaine (lbs)	353	49	67	696	2,067	120	3,353
Methamphetamine (lbs)	1,085	58	151	1,555	3,595	117	6,561
Heroin (lbs)	44	5	18	71	164	< 1	301

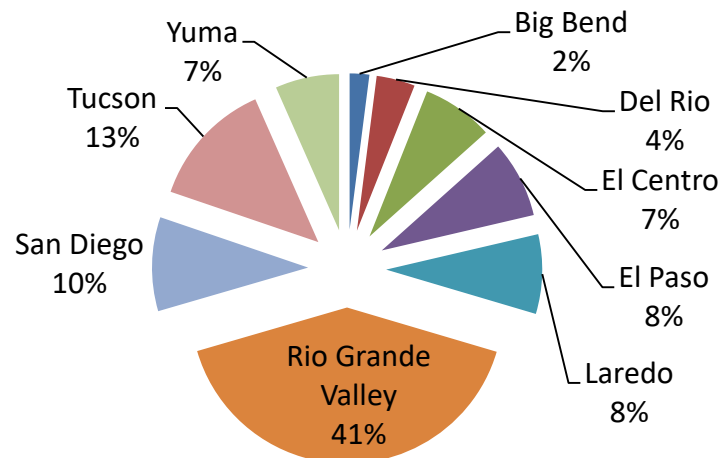




**Texas Border Sector Apprehensions
FY2018 (OCT-SEP)**



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

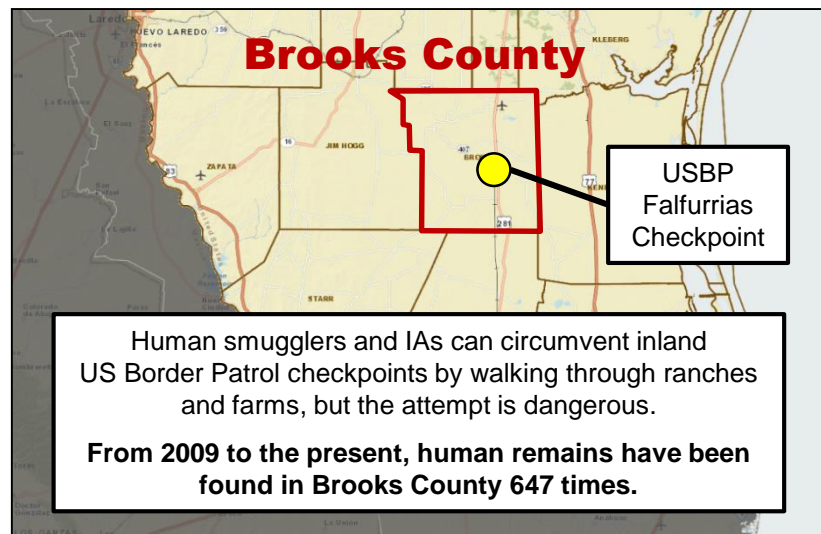


For more information, visit the USBP website at: <https://www.cbp.gov>

Illegal Aliens (IAs)	El Paso	Marfa	Del Rio	Laredo	RGV	Coastal Bend	TOTAL
CYTD 2019	45,327	3,045	15,938	12,966	103,893	0	181,169

Other Than Mexicans (OTMs)	El Paso	Marfa	Del Rio	Laredo	RGV	Coastal Bend	TOTAL
CYTD 2019	42,146	1,860	12,700	4,043	93,774	0	154,523

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 14 APR, USBP Agents seized 170.42 lbs of marijuana in three large burlap backpacks and apprehended an IA on a ranch north of Candelaria. An additional two subjects absconded. The subject and marijuana were referred to Alpine DEA.



On 16 APR, Terrell Co SO Deputies detained two IAs on a ranch southeast of Marathon. The subjects were referred to USBP.

On 18 APR, USBP Agents seized 279.32 lbs of marijuana and apprehended three IAs near a ranch southeast of Van Horn.

The marijuana was found in five large burlap backpacks. Two additional subjects were initially observed, but are believed to have absconded. The case was referred to Alpine DEA.



On 20 APR, a Brewster Co SO Deputy detained an IA on a ranch south of Marathon. The subject was referred to USBP.

DEL RIO SECTOR

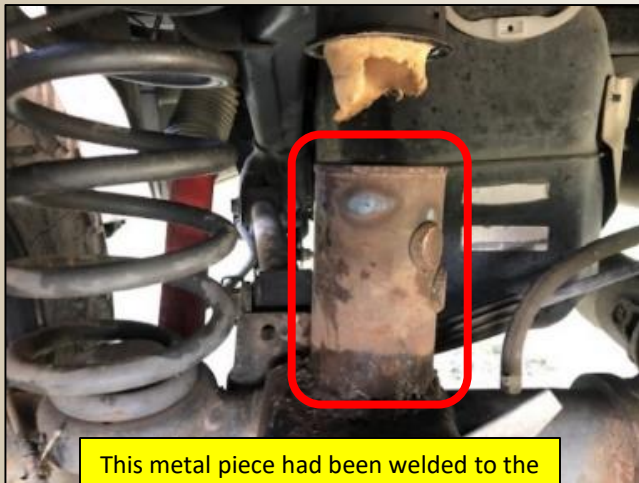
On 02 APR, a USBP Agent was dispatched to FM 2688 in Catarina regarding several subjects who had been seen entering a silver 2018 Ford F-150 pickup. The Agent conducted a traffic stop on the vehicle, which failed to yield. The vehicle was driven through a ranch fence, and several subjects bailed out. The Agent apprehended five IAs. The vehicle was identified as stolen from San Antonio. The IAs were processed, and a Dimmit Co SO Deputy impounded the vehicle.

On 02 APR, a Dimmit Co SO Deputy conducted a traffic stop on a stolen 2014 Ford F-150 pickup in Carrizo Springs, when a pursuit ensued. The vehicle was driven through a ranch fence, and the Deputy detained an IA passenger in the vehicle. The driver absconded. USBP Agents assisted and processed the IA, and the Deputy impounded the vehicle.

On 03 APR, a Dimmit Co SO Deputy observed a suspicious subject standing at a ranch gate on US-83, south of Catarina. A USBP Agent assisted and identified the subject as an IA.

DEL RIO SECTOR

On 03 APR, a Dimmit Co SO Deputy conducted a traffic stop on a white 2018 Ford F-250 pickup on US-83, south of Catarina, when a pursuit ensued. The pickup was driven through a ranch fence, where the driver bailed out and absconded. The vehicle, which was identified as stolen from San Antonio, was impounded.



This metal piece had been welded to the frame to conceal excess weight.

On 04 APR, a Dimmit Co SO Deputy conducted a traffic stop on a 2010 Dodge Ram pickup on US-83, when a pursuit ensued. The vehicle was driven onto a ranch, and the occupants bailed out and absconded. The vehicle had a fictitious rear license plate, and was reported stolen from San Antonio.

On 04 APR, a USBP Agent conducted an inspection on a silver 2005 Chevrolet Equinox on a ranch near FM 2644, west of Carrizo Springs, when the vehicle failed to yield. The vehicle stopped outside the ranch, and the occupants bailed out and fled. The Agent located four IAs, but the driver absconded. The IAs were processed, and the vehicle was impounded.

DEL RIO SECTOR

On 04 APR, an Edwards Co SO Deputy conducted a traffic stop on a white 2010 Dodge Charger at a ranch near US-377, west of Rocksprings. The Deputy detained six IAs, and a USBP Agent identified the USC driver and the front-seat passenger as the human smugglers. The Agent processed the subjects and impounded the vehicle. The Agent searched the vehicle and found 0.001 lbs of methamphetamine, which was referred to HSI.

On 05 APR, a Dimmit Co SO Deputy conducted a traffic stop on a white 2013 Dodge Ram 3500 pickup on US-83 in Catarina, when a pursuit ensued. The vehicle was driven through a ranch fence, and 11 occupants bailed out and fled. A USBP Agent detained an IA, but the other subjects absconded. The vehicle was identified as stolen from San Antonio. The IA was processed, and the Deputy impounded the vehicle.

On 07 APR, a Dimmit Co SO Deputy conducted a traffic stop on a silver 2009 Ford F-150 pickup on SH-85 in Brundage, when a pursuit ensued. The vehicle was driven through a ranch fence, and was later found abandoned.

DEL RIO SECTOR



On 10 APR, a Dimmit Co SO Deputy conducted a traffic stop on 2013 Dodge Ram pickup west of Catarina, when a pursuit ensued. The vehicle was driven through a ranch fence, and was later found abandoned. The vehicle was stolen from San Antonio.

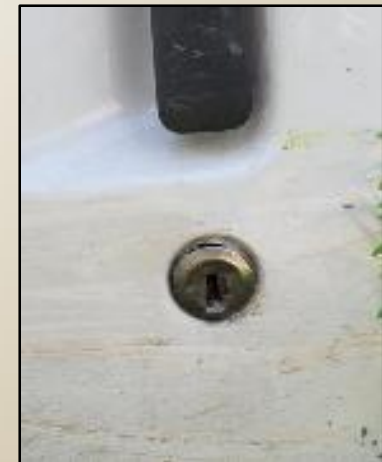
On 14 APR, a Kinney Co SO Deputy assisted USBP Agents in the rescue of 21 IAs who had become stranded on an island in the River southeast of Del Rio. The Agents used a boat to rescue the subjects, all of whom were processed.



DEL RIO SECTOR

On 15 APR, USBP Agents rescued 15 IAs who were stranded on an island in the River near a ranch north of Quemado. One of the IAs was identified as a registered sex offender. The subject was arrested for Illegal Entry, and the other IAs were processed.

On 18 APR, a Dimmit Co SO Deputy conducted a traffic on a white 2008 Ford Econoline on FM 2688 in Catarina, when a pursuit ensued. The vehicle was driven onto a ranch, and the occupants bailed out and absconded. The vehicle, which was reported stolen from San Antonio, was impounded.



DEL RIO SECTOR

On 18 APR, a Dimmit Co SO Deputy observed a white 2012 Ford F-350 pickup and a van traveling in tandem in Big Wells. The Deputy conducted a vehicle stop on the pickup on FM 1867, when a pursuit ensued. On FM 1867, north of Catarina, the pickup drove through a ranch fence, and the occupants bailed out and absconded. The van was also driven through a ranch fence, and the occupants bailed out and absconded. The pickup was identified as stolen from Liberty Hill.

Both vehicles were impounded.



On 18 APR, a USBP Agent conducted an inspection on a silver Ford F-150 pickup south of Catarina, when the vehicle failed to yield. The vehicle was driven through a ranch fence, and the driver bailed out and absconded. The vehicle had a fictitious license plate, and was reported stolen from Austin. A THP Trooper impounded the vehicle.

DEL RIO SECTOR

On 18 APR, a USBP Agent found an abandoned handgun with a magazine and four rounds of ammo on a ranch road near FM 1024, north of Comstock. The handgun was referred to Val Verde Co SO.

On 18 APR, a Zavala Co SO Deputy was dispatched to FM 1025, north of Crystal City, regarding a suspicious gold 2014 Ford F-250 pickup. The vehicle was located in the brush on a ranch, identified as stolen from San Antonio, and impounded.

On 18 APR, a Dimmit Co SO Deputy conducted a traffic stop on a white 2016 Dodge Ram 1500 pickup on FM 133 in Catarina, when a pursuit ensued. The vehicle was driven onto a ranch and became stuck in mud. The occupants bailed out and absconded. The vehicle had a fictitious rear plate and a modified door lock, and was missing the rear seats. The vehicle, which was reported stolen from San Antonio, was impounded.



DEL RIO SECTOR

On 21 APR, a Dimmit Co SO Deputy conducted a traffic stop on a white 2011 Chevrolet Silverado pickup on FM 133 by a ranch in Catarina. The vehicle was driven through a ranch fence, and was not located. The investigation continues.

On 21 APR, a Dimmit Co SO Deputy conducted a traffic stop on a white 2011 Dodge Ram 2500 pickup on FM 133, east of San Roque Creek, near Catarina, when a pursuit ensued. The pickup was driven through a ranch fence, where the driver and passengers bailed out and fled. USBP Agents assisted and apprehended two IAs who had been passengers in the vehicle. The IAs were processed, and the vehicle was impounded.

On 23 APR, a Dimmit Co SO Deputy conducted a traffic stop on a white 2015 Dodge Ram 1500 pickup on SH-85 in Carrizo Springs, when a pursuit ensued. After approximately five miles, the vehicle was driven onto a ranch, and the occupants bailed out and absconded. The vehicle's rear seats had been removed, the tool box had been cut out, and the suspension had been modified. The vehicle, which was reported stolen from San Antonio, was impounded.



DEL RIO SECTOR

On 25 APR, Kinney Co SO Deputies assisted USBP Agents in the apprehension of four IAs on a ranch in southwest Kinney Co. All of the subjects were processed.

On 26 and 27 APR, Kinney Co SO Deputies rescued groups of IAs who had become stranded on an island in the River near a ranch west of Brackettville. A total of 39 IAs were processed.

In each of two incidents on 30 APR, a Dimmit Co SO Deputy conducted a traffic stop on a newer-model Ford pickup on FM 133 in Catarina, when a pursuit ensued. In both incidents, the vehicle was driven onto a ranch, and the occupants bailed out and absconded. The vehicles, which were both reported stolen from San Antonio and had fictitious license plates, were impounded. One of the vehicles was missing the back seats and the center console. USBP Agents assisted with the incidents.



LAREDO SECTOR



On 01 APR, Laredo North USBP Agents responded to a Drawbridge camera activation at a ranch. The Agents, along with CBP OAM assets, located an IA with 374.79 lbs of marijuana. The marijuana was seized, and the subject was processed.



On 09 APR, Cotulla USBP Agents conducted a traffic stop on a 2017 Ford F-350 pickup near Pearsall. As the Agents approached, the vehicle was driven off the road, through a fence, and into the brush. The vehicle, which was found abandoned, was stolen from Austin.

On 10 APR, a Jim Hogg Co SO Deputy on FM 1017 in Hebbronville encountered a subject walking along a fence line. The subject, who stated that he had been walking for five weeks from Guatemala, was identified as an IA and referred to USBP.

LAREDO SECTOR

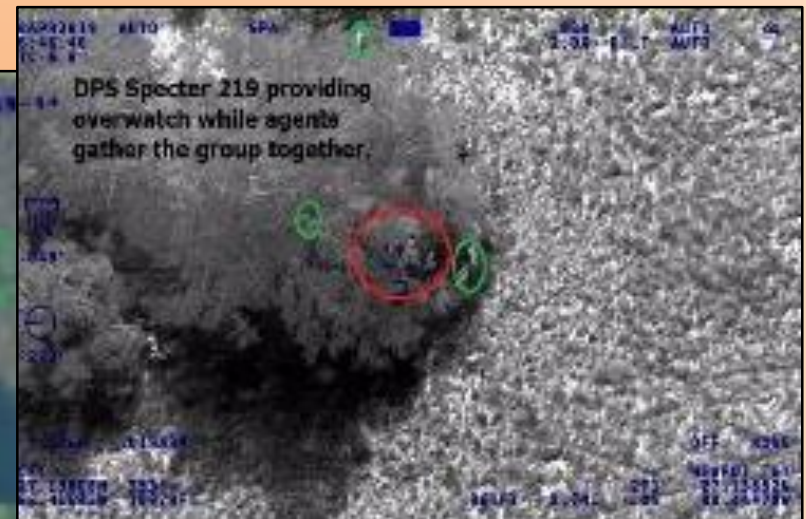
On 11 APR, Hebbronville USBP Agents were contacted by Jim Hogg Co SO Deputies regarding an abandoned white 2016 Dodge Ram 1500 pickup that had been found on a ranch near Hebbronville. The vehicle, which was stolen from Goliad Co, was impounded.

On 27 APR, Jim Hogg Co SO Deputies conducted a traffic stop on a white 2004 Ford F-150 pickup on SH-16 near Hebbronville, when a short pursuit ensued. The vehicle was driven through a ranch fence, and the driver bailed out and absconded into the brush. The Deputy detained 10 IAs who had remained in the vehicle, and referred them to USBP.

On 27 APR, Hebbronville USBP Agents observed a white 2017 Ford F-350 pickup being driven through a ranch gate off of FM 1017 near Hebbronville. As the Agents approached the vehicle, several subjects bailed out and absconded. The Agents apprehended three IAs. The vehicle, which was reported stolen from El Campo, was impounded.

RIO GRANDE VALLEY

On 04 APR, DPS AVN assisted USBP Agents with a group of subjects on a ranch in northern Brooks Co. The Aircrew scanned the area and lowered a THP Trooper from the helicopter to help the USBP Agents. Six subjects were located and taken into custody.



RIO GRANDE VALLEY

On 10 APR, a Brooks Co SO Deputy responded to a ranch in Falfurrias regarding human remains. The Deputy made contact with USBP Agents, and the Webb Co Medical Examiner assumed custody of the remains and personal effects.



On 10 APR, a Brooks Co SO Deputy responded to a ranch in Falfurrias regarding a deceased person. The Deputy made contact with USBP Agents, and the Webb Co Medical Examiner assumed custody of the remains and personal effects.

On 17 APR, a Kenedy Co SO Deputy responded to a vehicle pursuit in progress. USBP Agents pursued the vehicle onto a ranch along US-77 in central Kenedy Co, where the vehicle became stuck. The occupants bailed out and absconded. The vehicle was reported stolen from Mont Belvieu.

COASTAL BEND SECTOR

On 10 APR, a McMullen Co SO Deputy conducted a traffic stop on a 2017 Ford F-250 pickup near Tilden, when a pursuit ensued. The vehicle was driven through a fence onto a ranch near Esperanza Creek. The vehicle, which was found abandoned, was stolen from San Antonio.

In each of two incidents on 10 APR and 13 APR, a McMullen Co SO Deputy conducted a traffic stop on a newer-model Ford F-250 pickup in the Fowlerton area, and a pursuit ensued. In both incidents, the vehicle was driven through a ranch gate and the driver bailed out. Both vehicles were stolen from San Antonio.

On 23 APR, a Jim Wells Co SO Deputy conducted a traffic stop on a stolen gray 2017 Ford F-350 pickup near US-281, when a pursuit ensued. The vehicle was driven through a ranch fence, and eight subjects bailed out and absconded into the brush. A search of the abandoned vehicle resulted in the seizure of a stolen handgun.

On 24 APR, a Jim Wells Co SO Deputy was alerted to a stolen 2017 Ford F-250 pickup that had been located via GPS by the owner. The Deputy conducted a traffic stop in Alice, when a pursuit ensued. The vehicle was driven through a ranch fence, and the driver absconded. The vehicle had signs of human smuggling.



Total Pursuits and Bailouts (CY2014 - Present)*

Event	El Paso	Marfa	Del Rio	Laredo	Rio Grande Valley	Coastal Bend	TOTAL
Pursuits	3	110	814	496	1,885	659	3,967
Bailouts	5	118	1,014	996	1,718	654	4,505

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



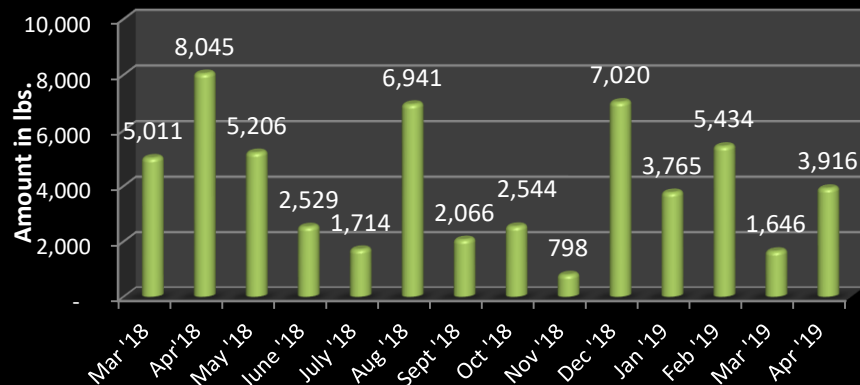


OPERATION DRAWBRIDGE

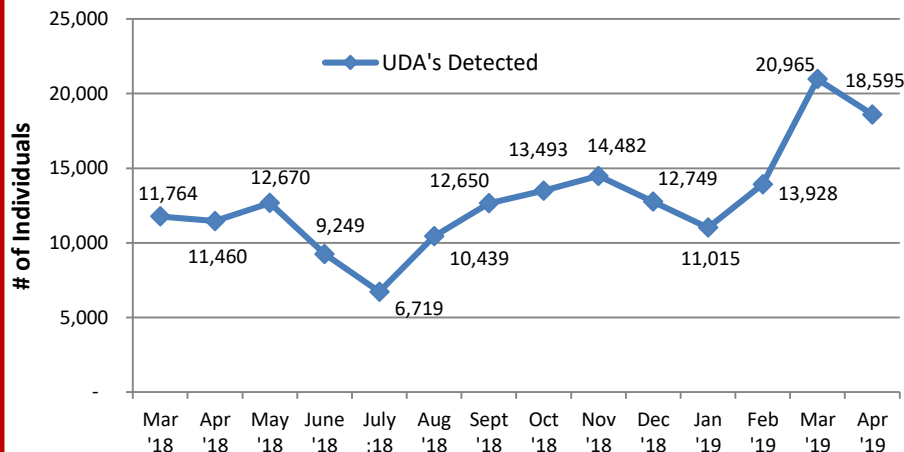
Statistical Summary – APR 2019



Drawbridge Initiated Marijuana Seizures



Drawbridge Stats



Operation Drawbridge Totals: JAN 2012 – APR 2019

Detections	546,572
Marijuana Seized	508,974 lbs (>254 tons)
Cocaine Seized	510 lbs
Methamphetamine Seized	30 lbs
Heroin Seized	2 lbs
Firearms Seized	39

Operation Drawbridge Totals: CYTD 2019

Detections	64,503
Narcotics Seized	14,761 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
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