

Border Operations Sector Assessment

South Texas
Ranch Edition

**November
2019**

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



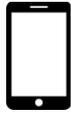
TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY BORDER SECURITY OPERATIONS CENTER



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.



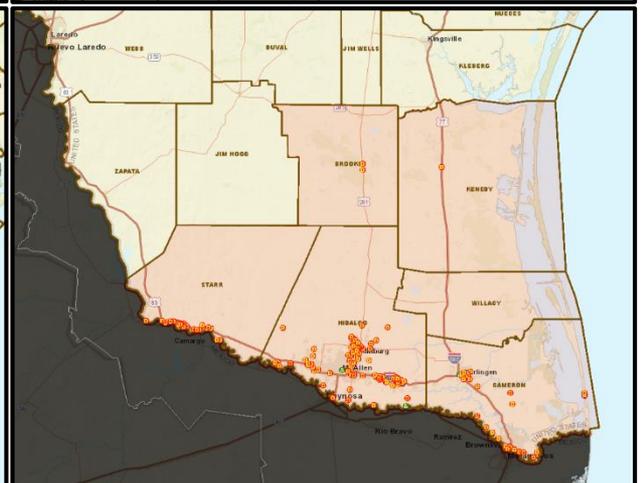
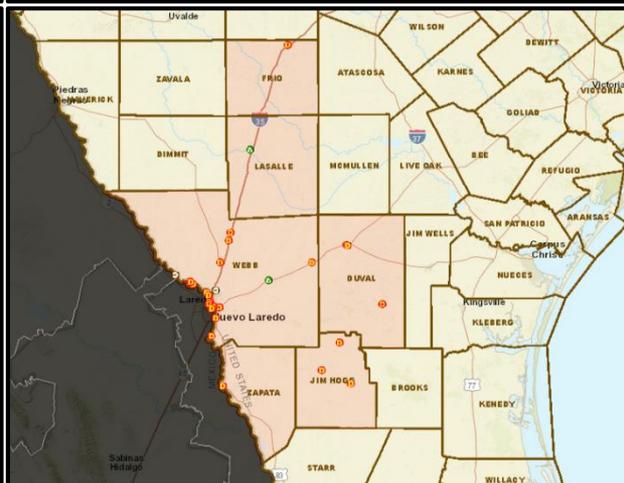
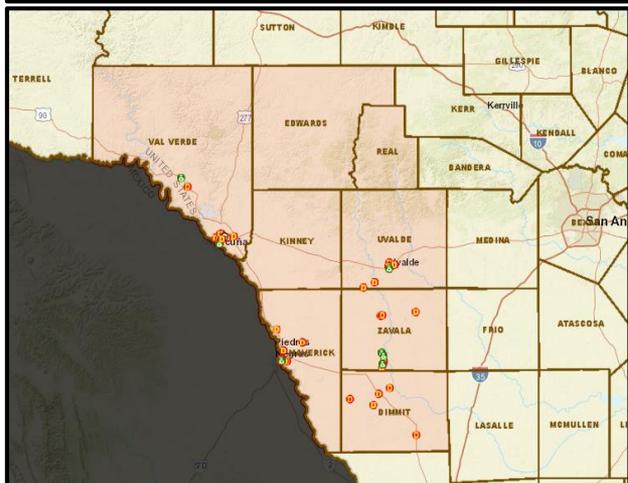
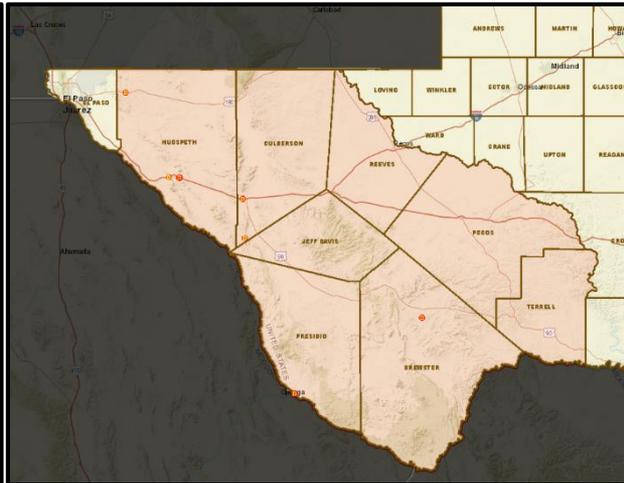
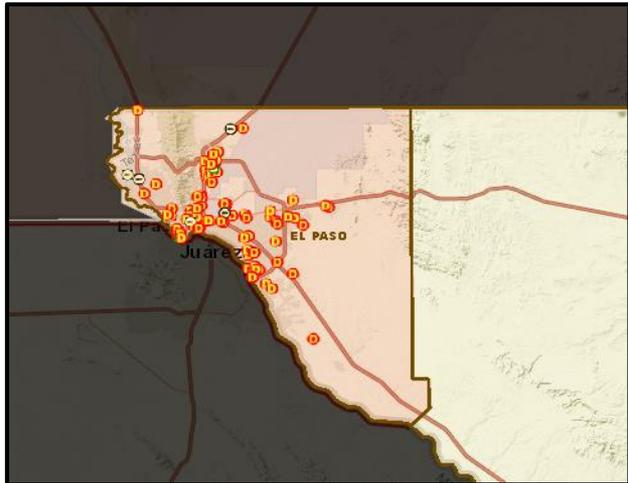
You may use the [Texas DPS iWatch](#) to report suspicious activities or behaviors that may indicate criminal or terrorist activity, such as drug smuggling, human smuggling, oil field thefts, and other criminal activity. Every report will be reviewed by analysts. You may also contact DPS at 1-866-786-5972,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



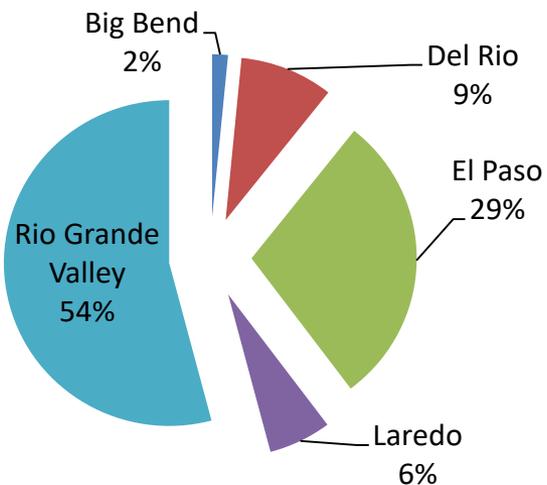
OPERATION BORDER STAR

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

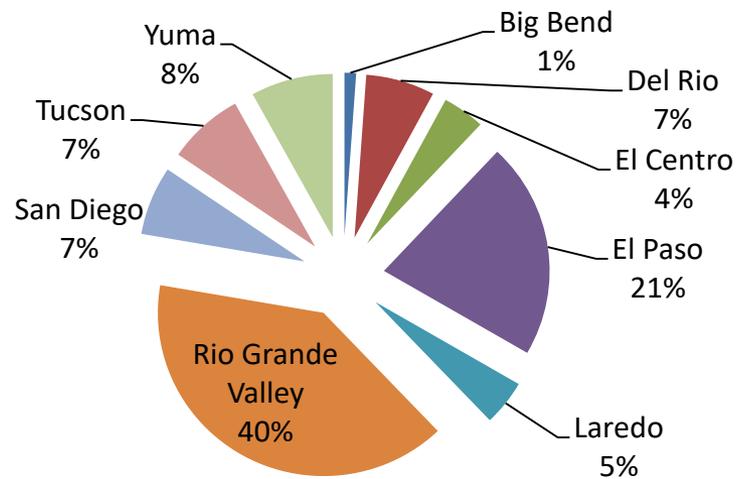
Seizures – CYTD 2019	El Paso	Big Bend	Del Rio	Laredo	RGV	Coastal Bend	TOTAL
Marijuana (lbs)	51,385	28,364	5,519	105,712	140,135	1,250	332,365
Cocaine (lbs)	962	61	245	1,591	5,178	576	8,613
Methamphetamine (lbs)	2,376	234	1,920	8,228	10,278	119	23,155
Heroin (lbs)	290	5	134	503	444	< 1	1,376



Texas Border Sector Apprehensions FY2019 (OCT-SEP)



Southwest Border Sector Apprehensions FY2019 (OCT-SEP)



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

Illegal Aliens (IAs)	El Paso	Big Bend	Del Rio	Laredo	RGV	Coastal Bend	TOTAL
CYTD 2019	125,846	8,489	51,653	37,941	286,152	0	510,081

Other Than Mexicans (OTMs)	El Paso	Big Bend	Del Rio	Laredo	RGV	Coastal Bend	TOTAL
CYTD 2019	109,575	5,405	43,050	11,191	257,918	0	427,139

Unaccompanied Alien Children (UACs)	FY 2019	FY 2018	FY 2017	FY 2016	FY 2015
Texas Border	57,603	34,383	31,827	47,192	31,109

Brooks County

USBP Falfurrias Checkpoint

Human smugglers and IAs can circumvent inland US Border Patrol checkpoints by walking through ranches and farms, but the attempt is dangerous.

From 2009 to the present, human remains have been found in Brooks County 681 times.

BIG BEND SECTOR

On 04 NOV, USBP Agents seized 25.09 lbs of marijuana that was found abandoned on a ranch along US-90, north of Candelaria. The marijuana, which was found in a cellophane-wrapped bundle, was referred to Alpine DEA.

On 21 NOV, a Brewster Co SO Deputy detained 12 IAs on a ranch south of Marathon. The subjects were referred to USBP.

On 22 NOV, USBP Agents, assisted by DPS AVN, apprehended 10 IAs on a ranch southwest of Marathon. The subjects were processed.

DEL RIO SECTOR

On 05 NOV, a Dimmit Co SO Deputy conducted a traffic stop on a white 2018 GMC Sierra pickup on FM 2688, west of Catarina, when a pursuit ensued. The vehicle was driven onto a ranch and was found abandoned by a second Deputy northwest of Catarina. The pickup, which had fictitious plates and was reported stolen from Houston, was impounded.

On 08 NOV, a USBP Agent apprehended nine IAs who were hiding in the brush on a ranch near Del Rio. One of the IAs was identified as the foot guide/human smuggler. The foot guide was arrested for Alien Smuggling, and the remaining IAs were processed.

On 11 NOV, a Dimmit Co SO Deputy conducted a traffic stop on a white 2014 Dodge Ram pickup on FM 2688 in Catarina, when a pursuit ensued. The vehicle crashed through a ranch fence and the occupants bailed out and absconded. The vehicle had a fictitious rear plate, the rear seats had been removed, and the door lock had been punched out. The vehicle, which was reported stolen from San Antonio, was impounded.



DEL RIO SECTOR



On 11 NOV, a Dimmit Co SO Deputy conducted a traffic stop on a red 2019 Ford F-350 pickup on US-83 in Catarina, when a pursuit ensued. The vehicle crashed through a ranch fence along US-83. Two subjects bailed out and absconded. The vehicle had a fictitious rear plate, the rear seats had been removed, and the door lock had been punched out. The vehicle, which was reported stolen from San Antonio, was impounded.

On 11 NOV, a USBP Agent apprehended three IAs who were hiding in the brush on a ranch north of Quemado. One of the IAs had a warrant. A Kinney Co SO Deputy arrested the subject, and the remaining IAs were processed.

On 12 NOV, a Dimmit Co SO Deputy was dispatched to an oil-field site west of Catarina regarding a suspicious subject who had attempted to break into an oil-field truck. The Deputy located an IA hiding in a tool shed.
A USBP Agent apprehended the IA.

DEL RIO SECTOR

On 16 NOV, a Dimmit Co SO Deputy was dispatched to a ranch west of Asherton regarding an abandoned 2004 Ford F-250 pickup. The vehicle had fictitious license plates, and a records check revealed that it was reported stolen from San Antonio. The vehicle was impounded.

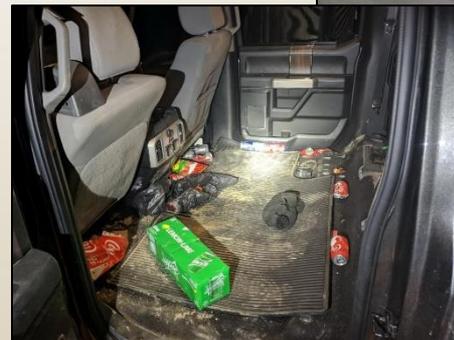


On 16 NOV, a Dimmit Co SO Deputy conducted a traffic stop on a white 2018 Ford F-250 pickup north of Catarina, when a pursuit ensued. The vehicle continued south to the Dimmit/Webb Co line, and was then driven onto a ranch. The driver bailed out and absconded. The vehicle had fictitious plates, the driver-side door lock had been tampered with, the rear seats had been removed, and the front seats had been swapped out from an older-model vehicle. The vehicle, which was reported stolen from San Antonio, was impounded.

DEL RIO SECTOR

On 17 NOV, a Kinney Co SO Deputy encountered a group of subjects on a ranch west of Spofford. The Deputy detained four IAs, who were referred to USBP.

On 25 NOV, a Dimmit Co SO Deputy conducted a traffic stop on a gray 2017 Ford F-150 on US-83 near Catarina, when a pursuit ensued. The vehicle was driven through a fence and onto a ranch near FM 133, and the occupants bailed out. USBP Agents were dispatched to search the area, but the subjects had absconded. The vehicle had an altered fictitious rear LP, and the original LPs were found on the rear seat. The vehicle, which was reported stolen from San Antonio, was impounded.



DEL RIO SECTOR

On 22 NOV, a USBP Agent apprehended three IAs who were hiding in the brush on a ranch near FM 2688 west of Catarina. A Dimmit Co SO Deputy arrested one of the IAs for a warrant, and the remaining IAs were processed.

On 15 NOV, a Dimmit Co SO Deputy responded to an abandoned white 2019 Ford F-150 pickup on a ranch north of Brundage. The vehicle was displaying fictitious LPs, and was identified as stolen from San Antonio. The original plates were found on the rear seats, and the vehicle was impounded.

On 19 NOV, USBP Agents observed a gray 2015 Chevrolet Tahoe and a red 2010 Ford F-150 pickup traveling in tandem on SH-163 near Comstock. The Agents conducted vehicle stops on both vehicles and apprehended a total of five IAs. The Agents found \$27,000 USD inside the center console of the Chevrolet, and the Agents identified the IA drivers as scouts. With the information provided, the Agents searched a ranch on SH-163 and apprehended 10 IAs who were hiding in the brush. One of the IAs was identified as the guide. Both drivers, the passenger in the Ford, and the guide were arrested for Alien Smuggling, the remaining IAs were processed, and both vehicles were impounded. An HSI Special Agent assisted and seized the currency.

LAREDO SECTOR

On 03 NOV, Freer PD Officers conducted a traffic stop on a white 2015 Dodge Ram 1500 pickup on US-59, when a pursuit ensued. The vehicle was driven into the brush on a ranch. The vehicle was later located abandoned with the assistance of USBP Agents. The vehicle, which was reported stolen from San Antonio, was recovered.

On 03 NOV, Jim Hogg Co SO Deputies conducted a traffic stop on a black 2015 Dodge Ram pickup on FM 1017 near Hebbronville, when a pursuit ensued. The vehicle was driven through a ranch fence. The vehicle, which was located abandoned, was reported stolen from Victoria.

On 06 NOV, an Encinal PD Officer assisted USBP Agents in a pursuit of a 2006 Chevrolet pickup. The vehicle stopped at a ranch, where the occupants bailed out. The Officer detained three IAs, who were referred to USBP. The vehicle was stolen from Bexar Co.

LAREDO SECTOR

On 12 NOV, Freer USBP Agents encountered a stolen vehicle on a ranch in Realitos. The 2016 Ford F-150 pickup, which was stolen from San Antonio, was recovered.

On 13 NOV, Jim Hogg Co SO Deputies conducted a traffic stop on a 2015 Ford F-150 pickup near Hebbronville, when a pursuit ensued. The vehicle was driven onto a ranch, and the driver bailed out and absconded. The vehicle was seized.

On 15 NOV, a Frio Co SO Deputy assisted USBP Agents in a pursuit of a gold 2002 Chevrolet Tahoe near IH-35 in Pearsall. The vehicle was driven through a fence, and the USC driver was arrested for human smuggling. Four IAs were apprehended, but two additional subjects absconded. The vehicle was seized.

On 23 NOV, an Encinal PD Officer conducted a traffic stop on a maroon 2017 Honda Accord by a ranch near SH-44. The three subjects had conflicting stories. The driver was from Cedar Hill and claimed to be traveling to Laredo. All three subjects were identified as scouts, photographed, and released. The driver received two citations.

RIO GRANDE VALLEY

On 04 NOV, a Brooks Co SO Deputy responded to a ranch regarding found skeletal remains. The remains were recovered and transported to the Webb Co Medical Examiner's Office.

On 24 NOV, a Brooks Co SO Deputy responded to a call concerning skeletal remains that had been found at a ranch in Falfurrias. A ranch employee escorted the Deputy to the site of the remains. The Webb Co Medical Examiner assumed custody of the remains.

On 27 NOV, Rio Grande City USBP Agents seized 34.10 lbs of marijuana and arrested three subjects in Escobares. The Agents observed three subjects abscond into nearby brush, and three additional subjects attempted to climb over a fence, but were apprehended. A bundle of marijuana that was found abandoned nearby was seized. Starr Co HIDTA assumed custody of the narcotics and the three subjects.

COASTAL BEND SECTOR

On 12 NOV, Jim Wells Co SO Deputies conducted a traffic stop on a blue 2018 Dodge 2500 pickup on US-281 near Premont, when a pursuit ensued. The vehicle was driven down SH-141 and onto a ranch, and was found abandoned with the doors and tool box open. The Deputies apprehended a subject nearby and identified him as an IA. The subject was referred to USBP, and the vehicle, which was reported stolen from Montgomery Co, was seized.

On 29 NOV, a Jim Wells Co SO Deputy responded to a ranch in Alice regarding a white 2012 Chevrolet Silverado pickup found on the ranch by the property owner. The Deputy searched the abandoned vehicle and seized 0.001 lbs of cocaine that was found on the rear seat. No arrests were made.



Total Pursuits and Bailouts (CY2014 - Present)*

Event	El Paso	Big Bend	Del Rio	Laredo	Rio Grande Valley	Coastal Bend	TOTAL
Pursuits	5	125	935	578	2,003	722	4,368
Bailouts	5	133	1,155	1,074	1,798	700	4,865

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

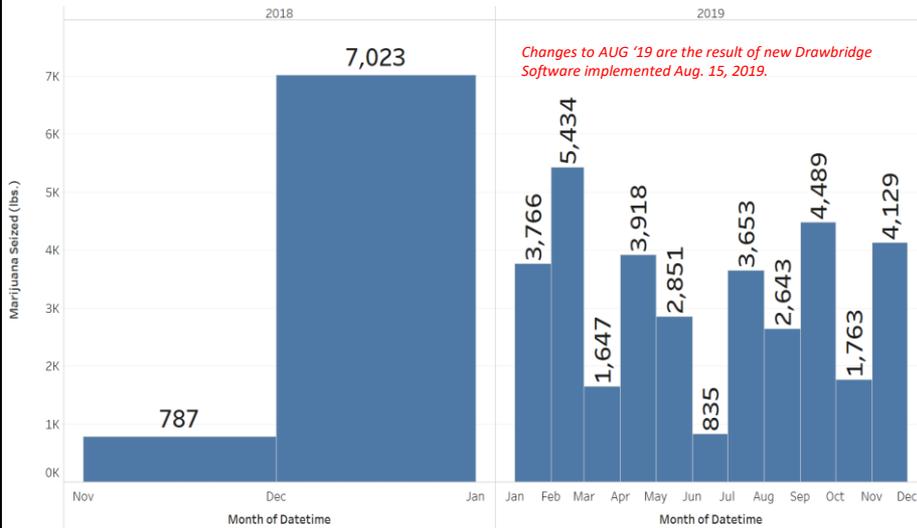




Statistical Summary – NOV 2019

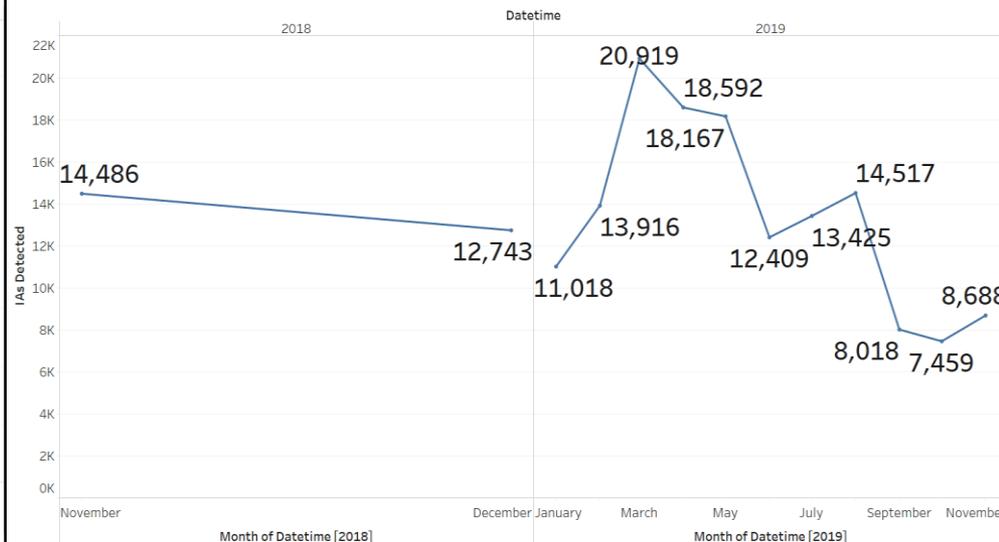


Drawbridge Initiated Marijuana Seizures



The plot of sum of Marijuana Seized (lbs.) for Datetime Month broken down by Datetime Year. The data is filtered on Datetime Year, which keeps all values. The view is filtered on Datetime Month, which ranges from Nov to Nov.

UDA's Detected



The trend of sum of IAs Detected for Datetime Month broken down by Datetime Year. The data is filtered on Datetime (MY), which keeps 13 of 95 members.

Operation Drawbridge Totals JAN 2012 - NOV 2019

	Datetime Grand Total
IAs Detected	629,162
Marijuana Seized (lbs.)	529,481
Cocaine Seized (lbs.)	549
Heroin Seized (lbs.)	4
Meth Seized (lbs.)	32
Firearms Detected	46

Operation Drawbridge Totals: CYTD 2019

	Datetime Grand Total
IAs Detected	147,128
Marijuana Seized (lbs.)	35,128
Cocaine Seized (lbs.)	40
Heroin Seized (lbs.)	2
Meth Seized (lbs.)	0
Firearms Detected	9

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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