

Border Operations Sector Assessment

Texas Ranch Edition

**April
2023**

**REPORTING PERIOD:
01 APR – 30 APR 2023**



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.



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.



iWatchTX Android App



iWatchTX iOS App

OPERATION BORDER STAR

	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)
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BIG BEND SECTOR



On 01 APR, Jeff Davis Co Constable's Office received a **Drawbridge** camera alert on a ranch across from Lomas de Arena, MX. A total of six IAs were observed walking north. A short time later, a second **Drawbridge** camera alert showed the same group walking north toward the Van Horn Mountains.

The information was relayed to DPS AVN and Van Horn USBP agents, and a search for the group began the next day. Van Horn USBP agents apprehended **six IAs** walking out of the mountains into Lobo Valley during the early morning hours.

On 05 APR, a THP trooper approached **an IA** who was on the side of the road. The IA stated that he was coming from a ranch and waiting for someone to pick him up. The trooper referred the IA to USBP.

On 08 APR, a THP trooper observed a vehicle traveling northbound on SH-349 and conducted a traffic stop. The occupants bailed out and evaded toward surrounding ranch lands. **An IA** was apprehended and referred to USBP.

BIG BEND SECTOR

On 16 APR, a THP trooper conducted a traffic stop on a vehicle, when a **pursuit** ensued. As the trooper approached, the vehicle accelerated and drove northbound on FM-2400. The trooper pursued the vehicle, and the vehicle was driven through a fence onto private property. The trooper terminated pursuit.

On 13 APR, Van Horn USBP agents apprehended a group of **six IAs** in the brush near a ranch, 18 miles south of Van Horn. One IA was identified as a **Paisas gang member** and guide.

On 24 APR, Marfa USBP agents apprehended a group of **four IAs** in the brush near a ranch, 11 miles north of Candelaria. One IAs is a known guide.

On 05 APR, Terrell Co SO deputies conducted a traffic stop, when a **pursuit** ensued on US-285, north of Sanderson. The vehicle was driven through a fence, and all occupants bailed out. The vehicle was towed.

On 15 APR, a Brewster Co SO deputy referred **an IA** to USBP after apprehending the subject on a ranch, 12 miles south of Marathon.

On 19 APR, Texas Ranger SOG operators assisted USBP with the apprehension of **11 IAs** on a ranch near Sanderson Canyon.

DEL RIO SECTOR

On 05 APR, a Kinney Co SO deputy identified **two IAs** on SH-131, south of Brackettville. One IA was referred to USBP. The second IA was taken to a hospital in Del Rio for treatment for an injury he received after falling off a ranch fence.

On 07 APR, a THP trooper conducted a traffic stop on RR-674, west of Brackettville, when a **pursuit** ensued. The vehicle became immobile when it ran into a fence. The driver and involved passenger were apprehended, and **six IAs** were referred to USBP. **Two pistols** were seized, and the driver, a **Bloods gang member**, had a warrant for murder and attempted murder from Baton Rouge PD .

On 07 APR, a THP trooper conducted a traffic stop on a white 2013 Ford F-150 on SH-131, south of Brackettville. The vehicle was driven onto a ranch, and the driver bailed out. The trooper referred **10 IAs** to USBP and impounded the vehicle.

On 19 APR, a THP trooper conducted a traffic stop on a gray 2019 Ford F-150 on FM-481, east of Eagle Pass. The vehicle was driven through a ranch fence. CBP AVN located the vehicle on a ranch after the driver bailed out. The trooper found that the front license plate belonged to another vehicle, and the vehicle was reported stolen from San Antonio. The trooper impounded the vehicle.

On 19 APR, an Eagle Pass PD officer conducted a traffic stop on a black 2018 Ford F-150, when a **pursuit** ensued. The vehicle crashed into a ranch fence on US-277, north of Eagle Pass, and the occupants bailed out. The officer referred **two IAs** to USBP and impounded the vehicle.

DEL RIO SECTOR

On 21 APR, a Kerr Co SO deputy conducted a traffic stop on a gray 2019 Ford F-150 on SH-41 in Mountain Home, when a **pursuit** ensued. The vehicle drove through several fences near IH-10, and the deputy located the vehicle near a ranch road after the occupants bailed out. The vehicle was reported stolen from San Antonio, and the deputy impounded the vehicle.

On 03 APR, a Dimmit Co SO deputy conducted a traffic stop, when a **pursuit** ensued. The vehicle crashed into a ranch fence, and the driver bailed out. The vehicle was reported stolen and recovered.

On 24 APR, a Dimmit Co SO deputy conducted a traffic stop on a brown 2014 Chevrolet Silverado on FM-1019 in Valley Wells, when a **pursuit** ensued. The vehicle was driven through a ranch fence, north of Catarina. The driver bailed out and was detained. The deputy identified the driver as **an IA**, and the vehicle was reported stolen from San Antonio. The deputy arrested the driver and impounded the vehicle.

On 02 APR, a Zavala Co SO deputy conducted a traffic stop on a maroon 2006 Ford F-150 on US-57, west of La Pryor, when a **pursuit** ensued. The vehicle was driven onto private property and later found abandoned.

On 06 APR, a Zavala Co So deputy conducted a traffic stop on a black Chevrolet Tahoe on US-57, east of La Pryor, when a **pursuit** ensued. The vehicle was driven onto a ranch but not located.

DEL RIO SECTOR

On 07 APR, a Zavala Co SO deputy conducted a traffic stop on a white 2015 Dodge Ram on FM-1436, north of La Pryor, when a **pursuit** ensued. The vehicle was driven through a ranch fence, and the occupants bailed out. The vehicle was reported stolen from League City and was impounded.

On 08 APR, a Zavala Co SO deputy conducted a traffic stop on a white 2000 Ford F-150 on FM-117, south of Batesville. The vehicle was driven through a fence onto a farm, and the deputy located the vehicle after the occupants bailed out. The deputy impounded the vehicle.

On 09 APR, a Zavala Co SO deputy conducted a traffic stop on a white Ford F-150 on FM-1025, northeast of Crystal City, when a **pursuit** ensued. The vehicle was driven onto a ranch, where it was later found abandoned.

On 16 APR, a Zavala Co SO deputy conducted a traffic stop on a white 2003 GMC Yukon on US-57, west of La Pryor, when a **pursuit** ensued. The vehicle was driven into a fence line, and several subjects bailed out. **An IA** was apprehended and referred to USBP. The vehicle was impounded.

On 22 APR, a Zavala Co SO deputy conducted a traffic stop on a brown 1993 GMC Suburban on US-57, north of Batesville, when a **pursuit** ensued. The vehicle was driven onto a ranch and found abandoned with signs of human smuggling. The vehicle was impounded.

On 23 APR, a Zavala Co SO deputy conducted a traffic stop on a white 2011 Nissan Sentra on US-57, east of Batesville, when a **pursuit** ensued. The vehicle was driven through a ranch fence, and six occupants bailed out. The deputy impounded the vehicle.

LAREDO SECTOR

On 01 APR, a THP trooper conducted a traffic stop, when a **pursuit** ensued, reaching more than 120 MPH. The vehicle crashed into a fence, and a foot pursuit ensued. The driver was apprehended.

On 04 APR, a THP trooper observed **three IAs** on private property. Two IAs absconded, and another IA was arrested for criminal trespassing.

On 04 APR, a THP trooper assisted USBP with the apprehension of **four IAs** for criminal trespass on a ranch in Starr Co.

On 07 APR, a THP trooper arrested **five IAs** for trespassing on a ranch.

On 07 APR, a THP trooper responded to a **Drawbridge** camera alert on private property and arrested **four IAs** for criminal trespass.

On 08 APR, a THP trooper assisted a USBP agent regarding an abandoned vehicle on a ranch. The trooper observed the door handle had been tampered with, and the vehicle was reported stolen from Laredo. The vehicle was recovered.

On 09 APR, a THP brush team responded to a **Drawbridge** camera alert on a ranch. Upon arrival, the brush team observed a group laying in the brush along the fence line. When the team approached, the subjects fled into the ranch. **Two IAs** were arrested for criminal trespass.

On 09 APR, a THP trooper conducted a traffic stop on a Ford F-350 that was picking up subjects, when a **pursuit** ensued. The vehicle was driven through a fence onto private property, and the pursuit was terminated. The vehicle was later located abandoned.

On 13 APR, a THP trooper responded to a drone sighting of subjects on a private ranch, and **two IAs** were arrested for criminal trespass. **Three juveniles IAs** were referred to USBP.

LAREDO SECTOR

On 20 APR, THP troopers responded to a ranch and arrested **three IAs** for criminal trespass. Another subject was arrested for human smuggling.

On 20 APR, THP troopers responded to a **Drawbridge** camera alert on a ranch and arrested **an IA** for criminal trespass.

On 21 APR, DPS AVN assisted USBP with a search for subjects on a ranch near El Cenizo. 19 subjects were observed swimming to MX.

On 20 APR, THP troopers and Texas National Guard soldiers responded to a **Drawbridge** camera alert on private property and arrested **three IAs** for criminal trespass.

On 23 APR, THP troopers arrested **four IAs** for criminal trespass after locating them on private ranch property.

On 21 APR, THP troopers responded to private property and arrested **an IA** for criminal trespass.

On 05 APR, Cotulla USBP agents conducted a vehicle stop on a 2020 Ford F-250, when a **pursuit** ensued. A Frio Co SO deputy spiked the vehicle, and it was driven through a fence. The agents found the vehicle abandoned on a ranch and reported stolen from New Braunfels. Dilley PD took custody of the vehicle.

On 08 APR, Cotulla USBP agents were notified of a stolen 2019 Ford F-350. A Frio Co SO deputy encountered the vehicle near Moore, and the vehicle was driven onto a ranch. The driver and occupants bailed out, and the agents apprehended **three IAs**. The vehicle was reported stolen from San Antonio and referred to Frio Co SO.

On 19 APR, Cotulla USBP agents encountered a suspicious 2021 Chevrolet pickup on FM-3408, south of Cotulla, and conducted a vehicle stop, when a **pursuit** ensued. The vehicle was driven off the road. The agents found the vehicle abandoned on a ranch south of FM-3408. The vehicle was reported stolen from New Braunfels, and La Salle Co SO assumed custody.

LAREDO SECTOR

On 20 APR, Cotulla USBP agents observed a white Dodge Ram with multiple subjects attempting to conceal themselves in the bed driving in tandem with a GMC Yukon. The agents located the vehicles along IH-35, still in tandem as they exited to US-85. The Dodge abruptly turned off the road and was driven through a fence and onto a ranch. The Dodge was later found abandoned near Cotulla. The GMC continued eastbound and was later found abandoned in Dilley. Both vehicles were reported stolen from San Antonio. Frio Co SO assumed custody of the vehicles.

On 24 APR, Cotulla USBP agents observed a 2020 GMC Sierra traveling on CR- 6710 near Natalia. As the agents conducted a vehicle stop, the vehicle veered off the road and was driven through a perimeter fence and onto a property. The agents located the vehicle abandoned. The vehicle was reported stolen from San Antonio. Medina Co SO assumed custody of the vehicle.

On 24 APR, Cotulla USBP agents observed a suspicious 2020 Ford F-250 traveling east on IH-35 near Cotulla, and a records check revealed the vehicle was reported stolen from Fair Oaks. Before agents could conduct a vehicle stop, the vehicle was driven off the road and onto a ranch property. The agents located the vehicle abandoned. La Salle Co SO assumed custody of the vehicle.

On 17 APR, an Encinal PD officer conducted a traffic stop on a blue 2006 Chevrolet Silverado 150 on IH-35, when a **pursuit** ensued. The vehicle swerved off the interstate and onto a ranch near Encinal. The occupants bailed out, and the officer impounded the vehicle.

RIO GRANDE VALLEY SECTOR

On 01 APR, Falfurrias USBP agents apprehended **13 IAs** and recovered a stolen vehicle near Encino. The agents responded to a vehicle entering a ranch, located the vehicle, and deployed a tire deflation device. The vehicle came to a stop, and several subjects bailed out. The agents found that the vehicle was stolen and referred it to Brooks Co SO.

On 14 APR, a THP trooper conducted a traffic stop, when the vehicle slowed and turned into a fence. The vehicle continued through the ranch and was not located.

From 08-19 APR, Brooks Co SO deputies responded to ranches in five separate incidents regarding human remains. Brooks Co SO assumed custody of the remains in all five incidents.

COASTAL BEND SECTOR

On 13 APR, a THP trooper conducted a traffic stop on a gray 2019 Dodge Ram 1500 on US-59 in Jackson Co, when a **pursuit** ensued. The vehicle was driven through a property and broke through a barbed wire fence. The vehicle struck a tree, and approximately 15 subjects bailed out. The trooper detained and referred **an IA** to USBP.

On 24 APR, a Wharton Co SO deputy conducted a traffic stop on a black 2015 GMC Yukon near US-59, when a **pursuit** ensued. The vehicle crashed through a fence line, and the occupants bailed out. DPS AVN assisted, and **six IAs** were referred to USBP. **An IA** principle was arrested, and the vehicle was seized.

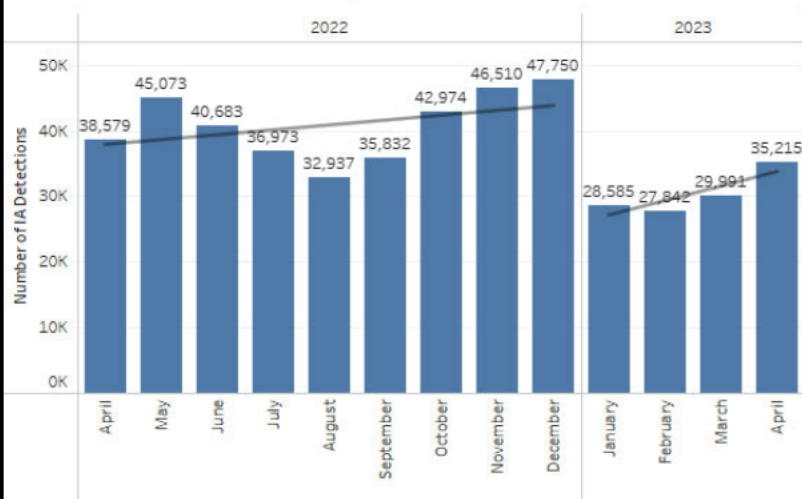




Statistical Summary – APR 2023



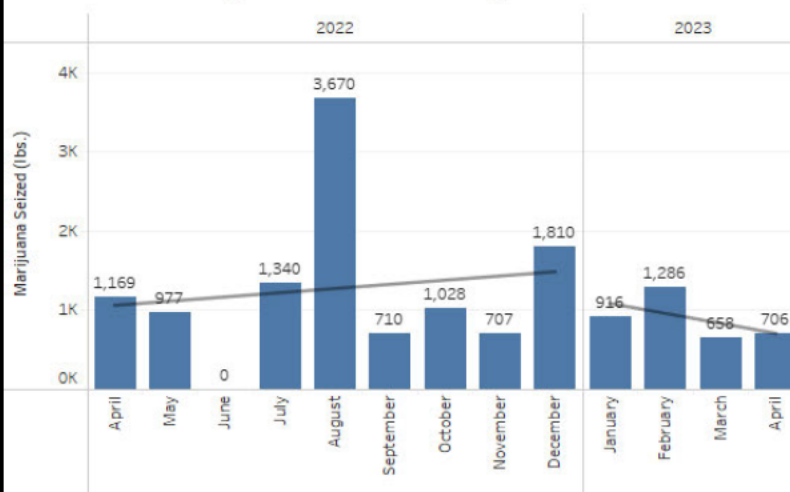
Drawbridge IA Detections



Operation Drawbridge Totals: Apr 2022 - Apr 2023

	Grand Total
IAs Detected	488,944
Marijuana Seized (lbs.)	14,977
Cocaine Seized (lbs.)	16
Heroin Seized (lbs.)	0
Meth Seized (lbs.)	0
Firearms Detected	13

Drawbridge Initiated Marijuana Seizures



Operation Drawbridge Totals: Jan 2012 - Apr 2023

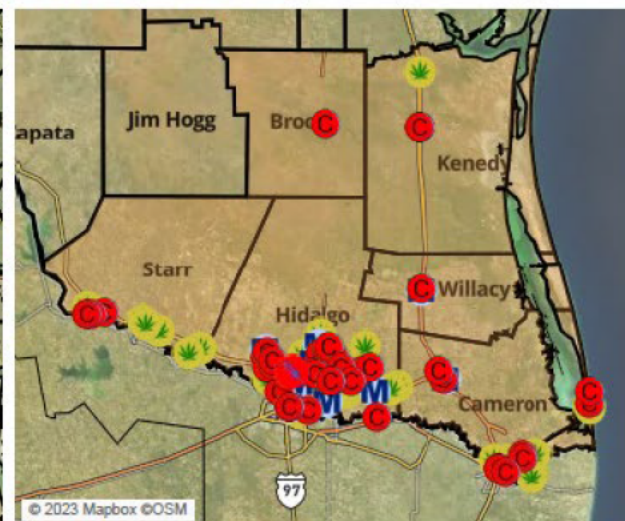
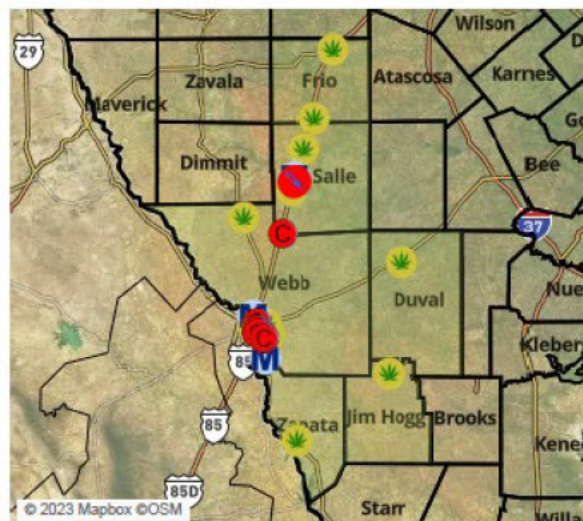
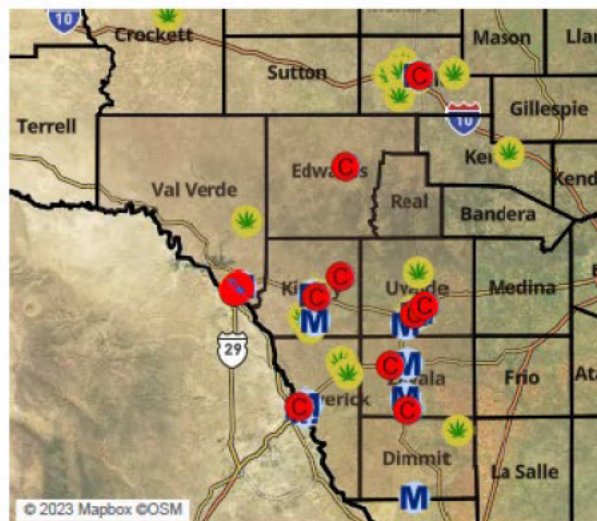
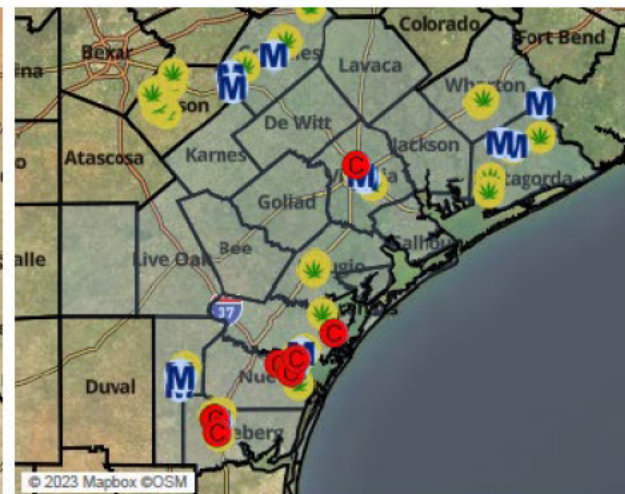
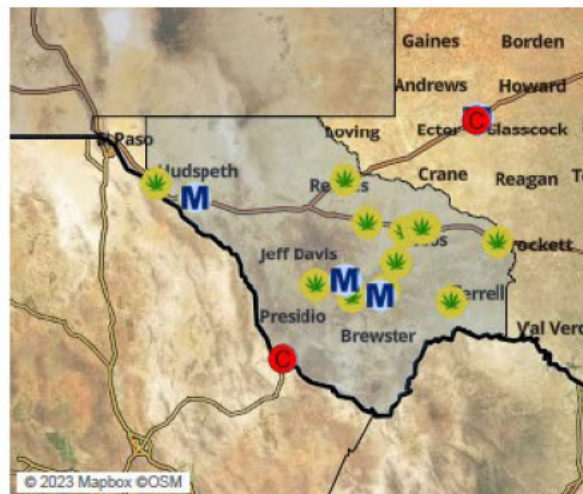
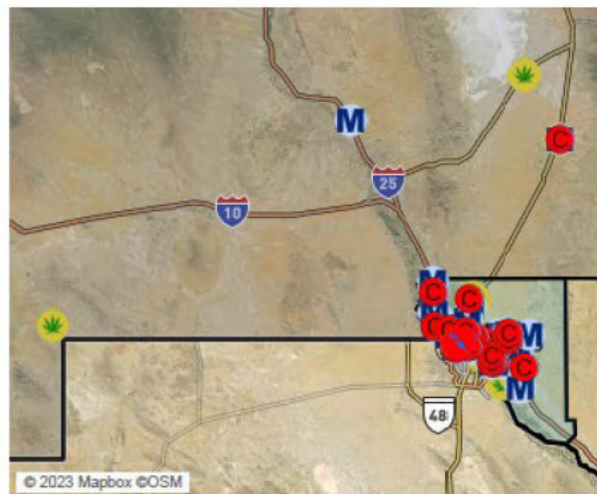
	Grand Total
IAs Detected	1,860,901
Marijuana Seized (lbs.)	635,921
Cocaine Seized (lbs.)	1,533
Heroin Seized (lbs.)	40
Meth Seized (lbs.)	205
Firearms Detected	109



Ranch Border Operations Sector Assessment



01 APR - 30 APR, 2023	El Paso	Big Bend	Del Rio	Laredo	Rio Grande Va..	Coastal Bend	Total
Marijuana (lbs)	52	147	4	756	560	7	1,526
Cocaine (lbs)	53	21	225	201	558	96	1,154
Methamphetamine (lbs)	19	0	48	486	297	157	1,006
Heroin (lbs)	0	1	0	0	0	0	1





Sector Apprehension Comparisons



Illegal Aliens by JOIC (01 APR - 30 APR, 2023)

	El Paso	Big Bend	Del Rio	Laredo	Rio Grande Valley	Total
Total UA wT42	39,122	1,145	19,121	4,870	37,146	101,404
OTM	24,454	449	13,067	1,081	33,173	72,224

Total Pursuits and Bailouts (01 APR - 30 APR, 2023)

	El Paso	Big Bend	Del Rio	Laredo	Rio Grande Valley	Coastal Bend	Total
Pursuits	19	11	136	35	36	16	253
Bailouts	17	21	185	36	31	10	300



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

TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY
BORDER SECURITY OPERATIONS CENTER

Email: TBSOC@dps.texas.gov

Phone: 512-424-7561

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