

# **Border Operations Sector Assessment**

Texas Ranch Edition

**AUG  
2023**

**REPORTING PERIOD:  
01 AUG – 31 AUG 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

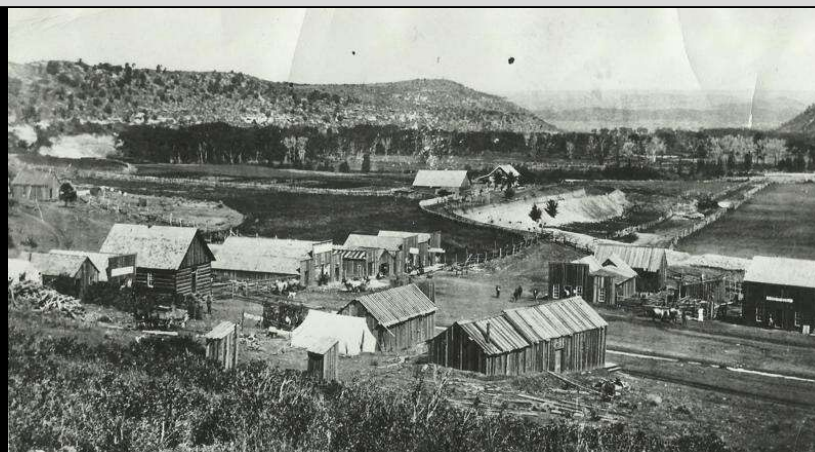
## OPERATION BORDER STAR

	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)
Main Phone #	(512) 454-7561	(915) 212-4200	(432) 729-4506	(830) 778-7837	(956) 764-3181	(956) 289-5727	(361) 485-8500
Main E-mail	<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>



# BIG BEND SECTOR

On 03 AUG, Sierra Blanca USBP responded to a ranch 25 miles south of Allamore in reference to armed subjects observed after a sensor activation. Upon arrival, four subjects were observed absconding to MX. Agents cleared the ranch house and recovered two **AR-15 rifles, a shotgun barrel, three magazines, and 66 rds of ammo.** Record checks revealed one of the AR-15s was reported **stolen** from Dallas. The firearms were referred to Hudspeth Co SO.



## DEL RIO SECTOR

On 03 AUG, a Maverick Co SO deputy conducted a traffic stop on a gray 2017 Ford F-350 on FM-1908, north of Quemado. The vehicle was driven onto a nearby ranch where the driver bailed out and absconded. The deputy referred **ten IAs** to USBP and impounded the vehicle.

On 07 AUG, a Zavala Co SO deputy conducted a traffic stop on white 2001 Dodge Ram 1500 on FM-1025, south of Batesville, when a **pursuit** ensued. The vehicle was driven onto a ranch where the deputy found the vehicle abandoned. The vehicle was impounded.

On 13 AUG, a Dimmit Co SO deputy conducted a traffic stop on a black 2016 Chevrolet Silverado on US-83, south of Catarina, when a **pursuit** ensued. The vehicle was driven through a ranch gate, a high fence, and continued through the brush traveling north. The deputy lost visual contact and later found the vehicle abandoned. The vehicle was impounded.



On 02 AUG, a Real Co SO deputy conducted a traffic stop on a white 2020 Ford F-150 on RR-337, near Leahey, when a **pursuit** ensued. The vehicle was driven into a fence post on a ranch when the occupants bailed out. EMS transported **an IA** to a hospital in Uvalde. The deputy found the vehicle had a license plate from another vehicle, and the vehicle was reported **stolen** from San Antonio. The deputy impounded the vehicle.

## DEL RIO SECTOR

On 15 AUG, a Zavala Co SO deputy conducted a traffic stop on a black 2002 Chevrolet Tahoe on FM-1025, south of Batesville, when a **pursuit** ensued. The vehicle was driven onto a ranch when the occupants bailed out and absconded. The deputy impounded the vehicle.



On 11 AUG, a Zavala Co SO deputy conducted a traffic stop on a black 2008 Dodge Ram on US-57, west of Batesville, when a **pursuit** ensued. The vehicle was driven through a ranch fence, and the deputy located the vehicle after it crashed into a tree and the occupants bailed out and absconded. The deputy impounded the vehicle.

On 14 AUG, a THP trooper was advised by USBP of a juvenile subject claiming to be a US citizen who had illegally crossed the border with a large group of **IAs** onto a ranch. The juvenile's citizenship was confirmed and their family was contacted. The subject was released to their grandfather in the Eagle Pass area.



# LAREDO SECTOR

On 04 AUG, a DPS Laredo Brush Team assisted National Guard soldiers and USBP agents to apprehend **26 IAs** on a raft making landfall on a ranch at the River. The subjects were family units and were referred to USBP. **Three IAs** were seen returning to MX and were possible guides for the group.

On 07 AUG, a DPS Laredo Brush Team responded to a USBP report of a group of subjects on a ranch. The trooper arrived on scene and detained **16 IAs**. A subject was arrested for human smuggling, and the others were referred to USBP.

On 11 AUG, an Encinal PD officer conducted a traffic stop on a white 2016 TTST when a **pursuit** ensued. The vehicle was driven through a fence line and onto a ranch when **13 IAs** and the USC human smuggler bailed out. The subjects were referred to USBP. The ranch owner requested to keep the vehicle.





# LAREDO SECTOR

On 12 AUG, an Encinal PD officer conducted a traffic stop on a silver 2006 Dodge Ram when a **pursuit** ensued. The driver slowed the vehicle and cut to the access road where multiple individuals bailed out and absconded onto a ranch. USBP agents apprehended **three IAs**. The vehicle was impounded.



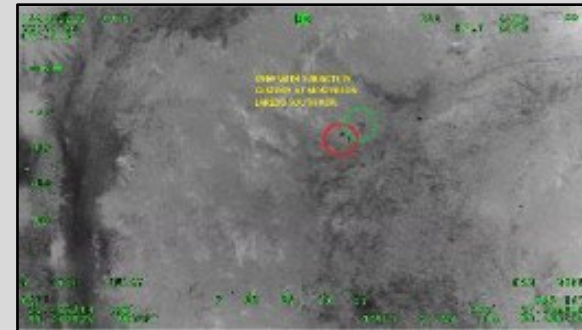
On 11 AUG, a DPS Brush team and TMD had a group of **ten IAs** surrender on a ranch. All the subjects were part of family units and were referred to USBP.



On 15 AUG, DPS AVN aircrew assisted National Guard soldiers and USBP agents with aerial surveillance of a group crossing the River onto a ranch. The subjects attempted to load into a vehicle when agents moved in and apprehend three IAs. The driver sped away and was apprehended at a gas station. A total of **four IAs** and the driver were taken into custody.

# LAREDO SECTOR

On 15 AUG, DPS AVN aircrew observed two groups of subjects crossing the River in rafts to a ranch near Laredo. Aircrew guided agents to the location where **11 IAs** were apprehended.



On 22 AUG, Cotulla USBP Agents observed a 2020 white Ford F-150 traveling south near Pearsall. Agents reported the Ford sped off and visual contact was lost. Agents later found where the vehicle was driven through a ranch gate onto a ranch. The vehicle was located abandoned. The vehicle was reported **stolen** from San Antonio.





# RIO GRANDE VALLEY SECTOR

On 15 AUG, Kingsville USBP agents and a DPS K-9 unit apprehended **six IAs** and arrested two human smugglers on a ranch near Norias.

On 15 AUG, Kingsville USBP agents, Harlingen USBP agents, and TX Air National Guard apprehended **eight IAs** and seized a vehicle near Raymondville. The vehicle was driven through a ranch when the subjects bailed out. The vehicle was seized.

On 18 AUG, Falfurrias USBP agents apprehended **four IAs** near Encino. Agents conducted a stop on a vehicle suspected of human smuggling when a **pursuit** ensued. The vehicle was driven through a fence and **four IAs** were apprehended. The vehicle was released to Brooks Co SO.



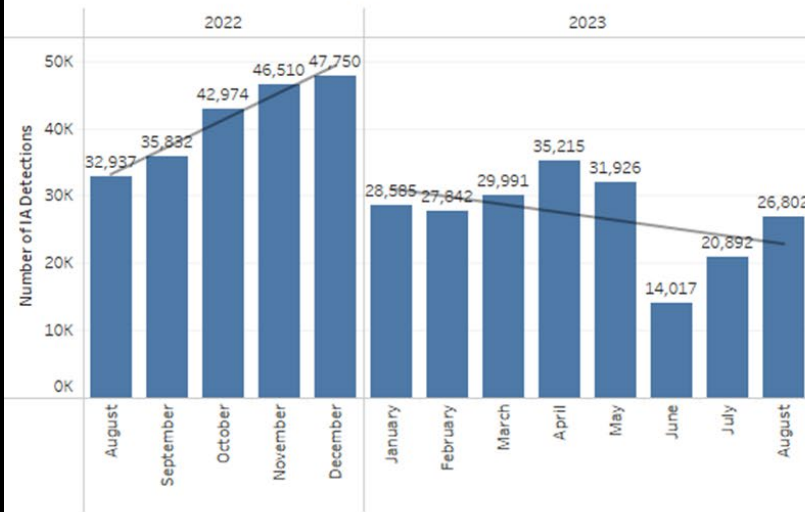


# drawbridge

## Statistical Summary – AUG 2023



### Drawbridge IA Detections

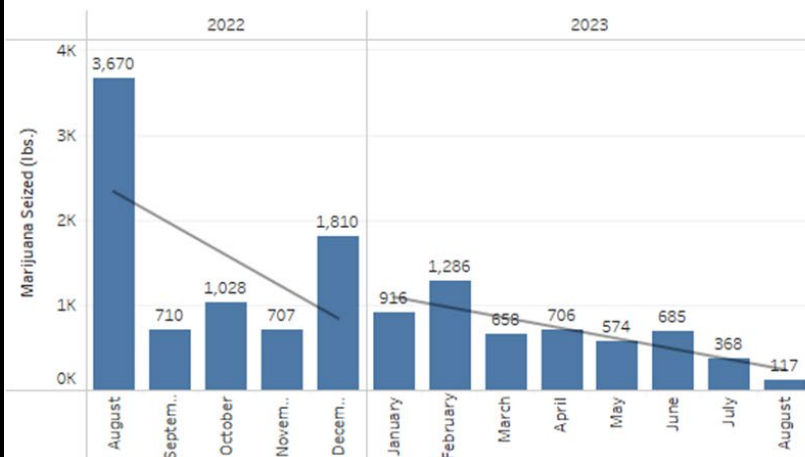


### Operation Drawbridge Totals: Aug 2022 - Aug 2023

	Grand Total
IAs Detected	421,273
Marijuana Seized (lbs.)	13,235
Cocaine Seized (lbs.)	16
Heroin Seized (lbs.)	0
Meth Seized (lbs.)	0
Firearms Detected	5

*Figures are based on initial reporting and are subject to change.*

### Drawbridge Initiated Marijuana Seizures



### Operation Drawbridge Totals: Jan 2012 - Aug 2023

	Grand Total
IAs Detected	1,954,538
Marijuana Seized (lbs.)	637,665
Cocaine Seized (lbs.)	1,533
Heroin Seized (lbs.)	40
Meth Seized (lbs.)	205
Firearms Detected	112

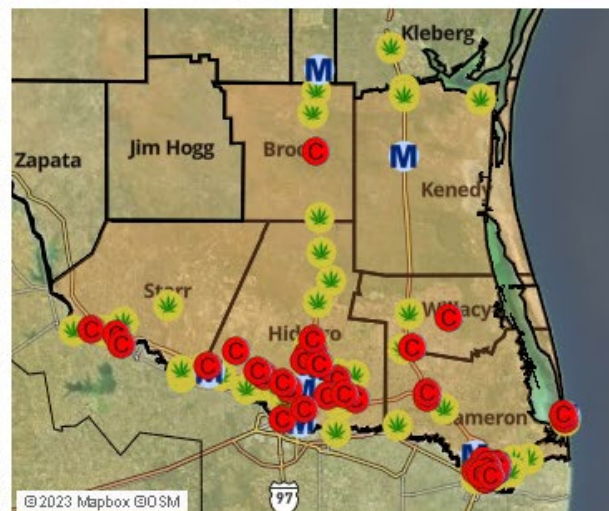
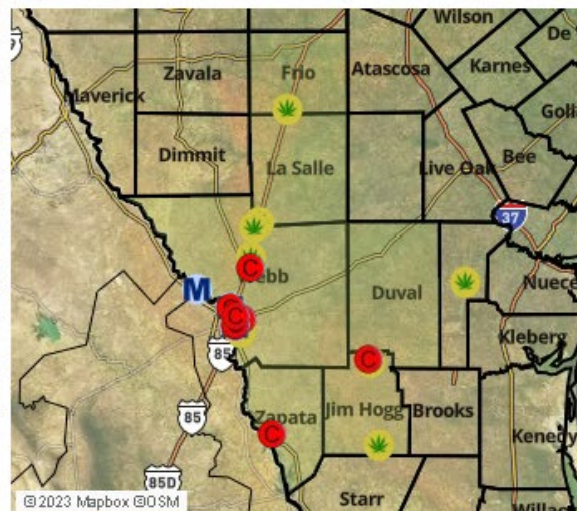
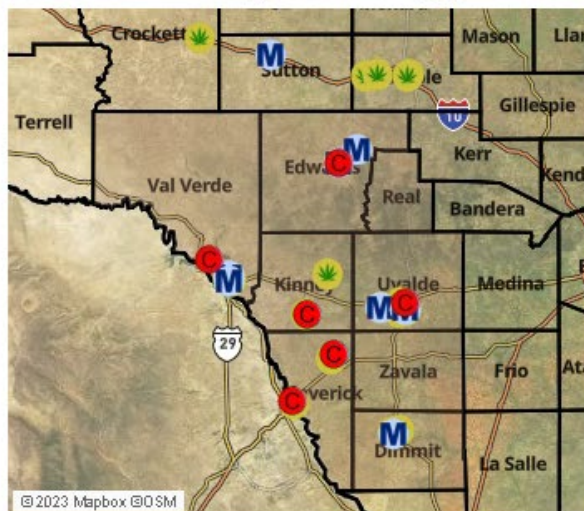
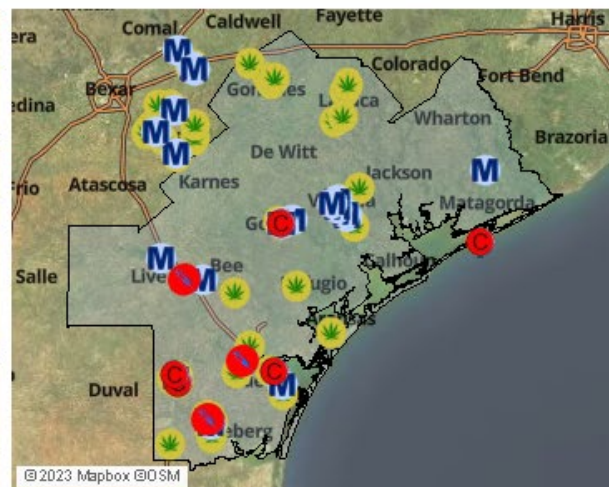
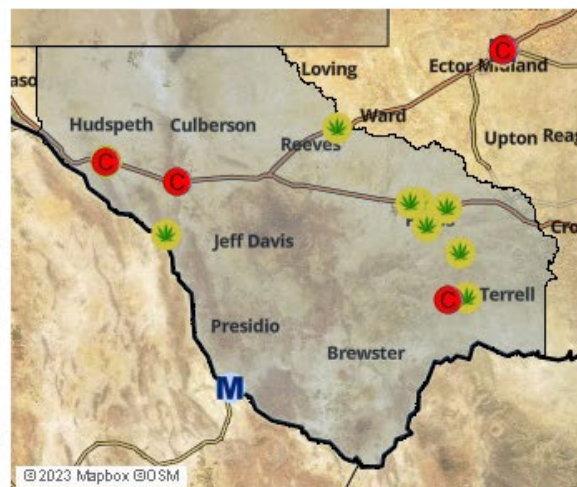
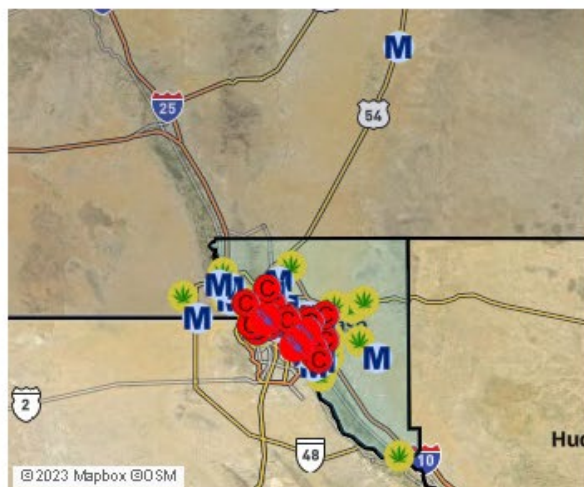




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01 AUG -31 AUG, 2023	El Paso	Big Bend	Del Rio	Laredo	Rio Grande Va..	Coastal Bend	Total
Marijuana (lbs)	287	114	1	105	3,564	22	4,095
Cocaine (lbs)	112	20	12	168	647	2	962
Methamphetamine (lbs)	868	159	1	2,242	591	2	3,862
Heroin (lbs)	12	0	0	0	0	9	20



Maps depict narcotics seizures during the respective reporting month





# Ranch Border Operations Sector Assessment



## Illegal Aliens by JOIC (01 AUG - 31 AUG, 2023)

	El Paso	Big Bend	Del Rio	Laredo	Rio Grande Valley	Total
Total UA wT42	25,246	569	29,736	3,083	46,551	105,185
OTM	16,124	298	25,683	1,297	44,150	87,552

## Total Pursuits and Bailouts (01 AUG - 31 AUG, 2023)

	El Paso	Big Bend	Del Rio	Laredo	Rio Grande Valley	Coastal Bend	Total
Pursuits	36	1	64	22	18	11	152
Bailouts	32	5	69	15	17	3	141



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](mailto:TBSOC@dps.texas.gov)

Phone: 512-424-7561

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