

[East River deer season kicks off Saturday in South Dakota](#) November 19, 2021, South Dakota
The Mitchell Republic

...There are some concerns that the deer population has suffered due to the excessively dry conditions the state experienced in 2021, along with the presence of epizootic hemorrhagic disease (EHD) and chronic wasting disease (CWD) ... The dry conditions reduced watering resources and opened up some available hunting areas to emergency haying ...

[East River deer season up and running in South Dakota](#) November 27, 2021 The
Dickinson Press

... There are some concerns that the deer population has suffered due to the excessively dry conditions the state experienced in 2021, along with the presence of epizootic hemorrhagic disease (EHD) and chronic wasting disease (CWD), two afflictions that have been plaguing state herd populations for the last several years...

Note also that the deer harvest fell in 2021 to 55,142 from 59,071 in 2020 indicating a decline in the population.