

Area II Minnesota River Basin Projects was established in 1978.

Over the joint power organization's 45-year history, numerous floodwater retention projects have been installed to temporarily hold floodwaters.

Of the 5,353.1 sq. miles of watershed area, 4,665.1 sq. miles lie within Minnesota and 688.0 sq. miles in South Dakota.

Five major watersheds are within Area II:

- Yellow Bank
- Lac qui Parle
- Yellow Medicine
- Cottonwood, and
- Redwood.

The most predominant land feature in Area II is the Coteau des Prairies, more commonly referred to as the Buffalo Ridge. This geologic formation is over 1,000 feet higher than the floodplain below.

Elevation drops of **92 feet/mile** (600 feet in 6.5 miles) in the Yellow Bank River and **78 feet/mile** in the Lac qui Parle River (380 feet in 4.9 miles) are the most extreme.

Senate File 542 / House File 793

Area II Minnesota River Basin Projects Floodwater Retention Project Examples



SPRINGDALE 21 ROAD RETENTION (Redwood County, 2015)



SPRINGDALE 19 GRADE STABILIZATION (Redwood County, 2021)



DEL CLARK LAKE GRADE STABILIZATIONS AND ROAD RETENTION
(Yellow Medicine County, 2021)



LAKE BENTON OUTLET RESTORATION (Lincoln County, 2021)

Area II's In-Place Floodwater Retention Projects (2018)

Map provided by: Freshwater Society

