



**APPENDIX B**

**EXTERIOR NOISE LIMIT STANDARDS  
 (Levels not to be exceeded more than 30 minutes in any hour)**

Receiving Land Use Category <sup>3,4</sup>	Time Period	Noise Level Standards (dBA) <sup>1,2</sup>	
		Rural/Suburban	Urban/Highways <sup>5</sup>
One and Two Family Residential	10:00 p.m. - 7:00 a.m.	40	50
	7:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.	50	60
Multi-Family Public Spaces.	10:00 p.m. - 7:00 a.m.	45	55
	7:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.	50	60
Limited Commercial Some Multi-Family	10:00 p.m. - 7:00 a.m.		55
	7:00 a.m. - 10:00 p.m.		60
Commercial	10:00 p.m. - 7:00 a.m.		60
	7:00 a.m. - 10:00 p.m.		65
Light Industrial	Anytime		70
Heavy Industrial	Anytime		75
<b>Adjustments to Noise Level standard:<sup>3</sup></b>			
<b>Duration</b>			
L <sub>50</sub>	30 minutes per hour:	Standard	
L <sub>25</sub>	15 minutes per hour:	Standard +5 dB	
L <sub>0</sub>	Maximum permissible level:	Standard + 20 dB	
<b>Character</b>	Tone, whine, screech, hum, or impulsive, hammering, riveting, or music or speech	Standard - 5 dB	
<b>Ambient Level<sup>1</sup></b>	Existing ambient L <sub>50</sub> , L <sub>25</sub> :	Standard + 5 dB	
	Existing ambient L <sub>0</sub> :	Existing maximum	

Interpretive Footnotes:

1. When an acoustical study demonstrates that the ambient noise level exceed the noise standard, then the ambient noise level becomes the standard.
2. Higher noise levels may be permitted for temporary, short-term or intermittent activities when no sensitive or residential uses will be affected.



**-MENDOCINO COUNTY PLANNING AND BUILDING SERVICES-  
DIVISION II OF TITLE 20--COASTAL ZONING CODE**

---



3. County staff shall recommend which receiving land use category applies to a particular project, based on the mix of uses and community noise levels. Industrial noise limits are intended to be applied at the boundary of industrial zones, rather than within industrial areas.
  
4. The “rural/suburban” standard should be applied adjacent to noise sensitive uses, such as hospitals or convalescence homes.
  
5. “Highways” apply to roads and highways where average daily traffic (ADT) exceeds 10,000.