

## **APPENDIX D: NOISE CALCULATIONS**

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## Minor Construction/Misc. Source Noise Prediction Model

Location	Distance to Nearest Receptor in feet	Combined Predicted Noise Level (L <sub>eq</sub> dBA)	Equipment	Reference Noise Levels (L <sub>max</sub> ) at 50 feet <sup>1</sup>	Usage Factor <sup>1</sup>
			Backhoe	78	0.4
			Excavator	81	0.4
			Flat Bed Truck	74	0.4
			Ground Type	soft	
			Source Height	8	
			Receiver Height	5	
			Ground Factor <sup>2</sup>	0.63	
			<b>Predicted Noise Level<sup>3</sup></b>	<b>L<sub>eq</sub> dBA at 50 feet<sup>3</sup></b>	
			Backhoe	74.0	
			Excavator	77.0	
			Flat Bed Truck	70.0	
			<b>Combined Predicted Noise Level (L<sub>eq</sub> dBA at 50 feet)</b>		
					79.3

Sources:

<sup>1</sup> Obtained from the FHWA Roadway Construction Noise Model, January 2006. Table 1.

<sup>2</sup> Based on Table 4-26 from the Federal Transit Noise and Vibration Impact Assessment, 2018 (pg 86).

<sup>3</sup> Based on the following from the Federal Transit Noise and Vibration Impact Assessment, 2018 (pg 176 and 177).

$$L_{eq}(\text{equip}) = E.L. + 10 \cdot \log(U.F.) - 20 \cdot \log(D/50) - 10 \cdot G \cdot \log(D/50)$$

Where: E.L. = Emission Level;

U.F.= Usage Factor;

G = Constant that accounts for topography and ground effects (FTA 2018: pg 86); and

D = Distance from source to receiver.



## Minor Construction/Misc. Source Noise Prediction Model

Location	Distance to Nearest Receptor in feet	Combined Predicted Noise Level ( $L_{eq}$ dBA)	Equipment	Reference Noise Levels ( $L_{max}$ ) at 50 feet <sup>1</sup>	Usage Factor <sup>1</sup>
			Backhoe	78	1
			Excavator	81	1
			Flat Bed Truck	74	1

Ground Type	soft
Source Height	8
Receiver Height	5
Ground Factor <sup>2</sup>	0.63

Predicted Noise Level <sup>3</sup>	$L_{eq}$ dBA at 50 feet <sup>3</sup>
Backhoe	78.0
Excavator	81.0
Flat Bed Truck	74.0

<b>Combined Predicted Noise Level (<math>L_{eq}</math> dBA at 50 feet)</b>
83.3

Sources:

<sup>1</sup> Obtained from the FHWA Roadway Construction Noise Model, January 2006. Table 1.

<sup>2</sup> Based on Table 4-26 from the Federal Transit Noise and Vibration Impact Assessment, 2018 (pg 86).

<sup>3</sup> Based on the following from the Federal Transit Noise and Vibration Impact Assessment, 2018 (pg 176 and 177).

$$L_{eq}(\text{equip}) = E.L. + 10 \cdot \log(U.F.) - 20 \cdot \log(D/50) - 10 \cdot G \cdot \log(D/50)$$

Where: E.L. = Emission Level;

U.F.= Usage Factor;

G = Constant that accounts for topography and ground effects (FTA 2018: pg 86); and

D = Distance from source to receiver.

# Vegetation Management Construction Source Noise Prediction Model



Location	Distance to Nearest Receptor in feet	Combined Predicted Noise Level (L <sub>eq</sub> dBA)	Equipment	Reference Noise Levels (L <sub>max</sub> ) at 50 feet <sup>1</sup>	Usage Factor <sup>1</sup>
			Chain Saw	84	0.2
			Flat Bed Truck	74	0.4
			Ground Type	soft	
			Source Height	8	
			Receiver Height	5	
			Ground Factor <sup>2</sup>	0.63	
			<b>Predicted Noise Level<sup>3</sup></b>	<b>L<sub>eq</sub> dBA at 50 feet<sup>3</sup></b>	
			Chain Saw	77.0	
			Flat Bed Truck	70.0	
			<b>Combined Predicted Noise Level (L<sub>eq</sub> dBA at 50 feet)</b>		
					77.8

Sources:

<sup>1</sup> Obtained from the FHWA Roadway Construction Noise Model, January 2006. Table 1.

<sup>2</sup> Based on Table 4-26 from the Federal Transit Noise and Vibration Impact Assessment, 2018 (pg 86).

<sup>3</sup> Based on the following from the Federal Transit Noise and Vibration Impact Assessment, 2018 (pg 176 and 177).

$$L_{eq}(\text{equip}) = E.L. + 10 \cdot \log(U.F.) - 20 \cdot \log(D/50) - 10 \cdot G \cdot \log(D/50)$$

Where: E.L. = Emission Level;

U.F.= Usage Factor;

G = Constant that accounts for topography and ground effects (FTA 2018: pg 86); and

D = Distance from source to receiver.



# Vegetation Management Construction Source Noise Prediction Model

Location	Distance to Nearest Receptor in feet	Combined Predicted Noise Level (L <sub>eq</sub> dBA)	Equipment	Reference Noise Levels (L <sub>max</sub> ) at 50 feet <sup>1</sup>	Usage Factor <sup>1</sup>
			Chain Saw	84	1
			Flat Bed Truck	74	1
				<b>Ground Type</b>	soft
				<b>Source Height</b>	8
				<b>Receiver Height</b>	5
				<b>Ground Factor<sup>2</sup></b>	0.63
				<b>Predicted Noise Level<sup>3</sup></b>	<b>L<sub>eq</sub> dBA at 50 feet<sup>3</sup></b>
				Chain Saw	84.0
				Flat Bed Truck	74.0
				<b>Combined Predicted Noise Level (L<sub>eq</sub> dBA at 50 feet)</b>	
				84.4	

Sources:

<sup>1</sup> Obtained from the FHWA Roadway Construction Noise Model, January 2006. Table 1.

<sup>2</sup> Based on Table 4-26 from the Federal Transit Noise and Vibration Impact Assessment, 2018 (pg 86).

<sup>3</sup> Based on the following from the Federal Transit Noise and Vibration Impact Assessment, 2018 (pg 176 and 177).

$$L_{eq}(\text{equip}) = E.L. + 10 \cdot \log(U.F.) - 20 \cdot \log(D/50) - 10 \cdot G \cdot \log(D/50)$$

Where: E.L. = Emission Level;

U.F.= Usage Factor;

G = Constant that accounts for topography and ground effects (FTA 2018: pg 86); and

D = Distance from source to receiver.

# O&M Construction Source Noise Prediction Model



Location	Distance to Nearest Receptor in feet	Combined Predicted Noise Level (L <sub>eq</sub> dBA)	Equipment	Reference Noise Levels (L <sub>max</sub> ) at 50 feet <sup>1</sup>	Usage Factor <sup>1</sup>
			Drill Rig Truck	84	0.2
			Jackhammer	85	0.2
			Compressor (air)	80	0.4

Ground Type	soft
Source Height	8
Receiver Height	5
Ground Factor <sup>2</sup>	0.63

Predicted Noise Level <sup>3</sup>	L <sub>eq</sub> dBA at 50 feet <sup>3</sup>
Drill Rig Truck	77.0
Jackhammer	78.0
Compressor (air)	76.0

<b>Combined Predicted Noise Level (L<sub>eq</sub> dBA at 50 feet)</b>
81.9

Sources:

<sup>1</sup> Obtained from the FHWA Roadway Construction Noise Model, January 2006. Table 1.

<sup>2</sup> Based on Table 4-26 from the Federal Transit Noise and Vibration Impact Assessment, 2018 (pg 86).

<sup>3</sup> Based on the following from the Federal Transit Noise and Vibration Impact Assessment, 2018 (pg 176 and 177).

$$L_{eq}(\text{equip}) = E.L. + 10 \cdot \log(U.F.) - 20 \cdot \log(D/50) - 10 \cdot G \cdot \log(D/50)$$

Where: E.L. = Emission Level;

U.F.= Usage Factor;

G = Constant that accounts for topography and ground effects (FTA 2018: pg 86); and

D = Distance from source to receiver.



# O&M Construction Source Noise Prediction Model

Location	Distance to Nearest Receptor in feet	Combined Predicted Noise Level (L <sub>eq</sub> dBA)	Equipment	Reference Noise Levels (L <sub>max</sub> ) at 50 feet <sup>1</sup>	Usage Factor <sup>1</sup>
			Drill Rig Truck	84	1
			Jackhammer	85	1
			Compressor (air)	80	1
			Ground Type	soft	
			Source Height	8	
			Receiver Height	5	
			Ground Factor <sup>2</sup>	0.63	
			<b>Predicted Noise Level<sup>3</sup></b>	<b>L<sub>eq</sub> dBA at 50 feet<sup>3</sup></b>	
			Drill Rig Truck	84.0	
			Jackhammer	85.0	
			Compressor (air)	80.0	
			<b>Combined Predicted Noise Level (L<sub>eq</sub> dBA at 50 feet)</b>		
					88.2

Sources:

<sup>1</sup> Obtained from the FHWA Roadway Construction Noise Model, January 2006. Table 1.

<sup>2</sup> Based on Table 4-26 from the Federal Transit Noise and Vibration Impact Assessment, 2018 (pg 86).

<sup>3</sup> Based on the following from the Federal Transit Noise and Vibration Impact Assessment, 2018 (pg 176 and 177).

$$L_{eq}(\text{equip}) = E.L. + 10 \cdot \log(U.F.) - 20 \cdot \log(D/50) - 10 \cdot G \cdot \log(D/50)$$

Where: E.L. = Emission Level;

U.F.= Usage Factor;

G = Constant that accounts for topography and ground effects (FTA 2018: pg 86); and

D = Distance from source to receiver.

Equipment Description	Acoustical Usage Factor (%)	Spec	Actual	No. of	Spec	Spec	Distance	Actual	Actual
		721.560 Lmax @ 50ft (dBA slow)	Measured Lmax @ 50ft (dBA slow)	Actual Data Samples (count)	721.560 LmaxCalc	721.560 Leq		Measured LmaxCalc	Measured Leq
Auger Drill Rig	20	85	84	36	79.0	72.0	100	78.0	71.0
Backhoe	40	80	78	372	74.0	70.0	100	72.0	68.0
Bar Bender	20	80	na	0	74.0	67.0	100		
Blasting	na	94	na	0	88.0		100		
Boring Jack Power Unit	50	80	83	1	74.0	71.0	100	77.0	74.0
Chain Saw	20	85	84	46	79.0	72.0	100	78.0	71.0
Clam Shovel (dropping)	20	93	87	4	87.0	80.0	100	81.0	74.0
Compactor (ground)	20	80	83	57	74.0	67.0	100	77.0	70.0
Compressor (air)	40	80	78	18	74.0	70.0	100	72.0	68.0
Concrete Batch Plant	15	83	na	0	77.0	68.7	100		
Concrete Mixer Truck	40	85	79	40	79.0	75.0	100	73.0	69.0
Concrete Pump Truck	20	82	81	30	76.0	69.0	100	75.0	68.0
Concrete Saw	20	90	90	55	84.0	77.0	100	84.0	77.0
Crane	16	85	81	405	79.0	71.0	100	75.0	67.0
Dozer	40	85	82	55	79.0	75.0	100	76.0	72.0
Drill Rig Truck	20	84	79	22	78.0	71.0	100	73.0	66.0
Drum Mixer	50	80	80	1	74.0	71.0	100	74.0	71.0
Dump Truck	40	84	76	31	78.0	74.0	100	70.0	66.0
Excavator	40	85	81	170	79.0	75.0	100	75.0	71.0
Flat Bed Truck	40	84	74	4	78.0	74.0	100	68.0	64.0
Front End Loader	40	80	79	96	74.0	70.0	100	73.0	69.0
Generator	50	82	81	19	76.0	73.0	100	75.0	72.0
Generator (<25KVA, VMS s	50	70	73	74	64.0	61.0	100	67.0	64.0
Gradall	40	85	83	70	79.0	75.0	100	77.0	73.0
Grader	40	85	na	0	79.0	75.0	100		
Grapple (on Backhoe)	40	85	87	1	79.0	75.0	100	81.0	77.0
Horizontal Boring Hydr. Jac	25	80	82	6	74.0	68.0	100	76.0	70.0
Hydra Break Ram	10	90	na	0	84.0	74.0	100		
Impact Pile Driver	20	95	101	11	89.0	82.0	100	95.0	88.0
Jackhammer	20	85	89	133	79.0	72.0	100	83.0	76.0
Man Lift	20	85	75	23	79.0	72.0	100	69.0	62.0
Mounted Impact Hammer	20	90	90	212	84.0	77.0	100	84.0	77.0
Pavement Scarafier	20	85	90	2	79.0	72.0	100	84.0	77.0
Paver	50	85	77	9	79.0	76.0	100	71.0	68.0
Pickup Truck	40	55	75	1	49.0	45.0	100	69.0	65.0
Pneumatic Tools	50	85	85	90	79.0	76.0	100	79.0	76.0
Pumps	50	77	81	17	71.0	68.0	100	75.0	72.0
Refrigerator Unit	100	82	73	3	76.0	76.0	100	67.0	67.0
Rivit Buster/chipping gun	20	85	79	19	79.0	72.0	100	73.0	66.0
Rock Drill	20	85	81	3	79.0	72.0	100	75.0	68.0
Roller	20	85	80	16	79.0	72.0	100	74.0	67.0
Sand Blasting (Single Nozzl	20	85	96	9	79.0	72.0	100	90.0	83.0
Scraper	40	85	84	12	79.0	75.0	100	78.0	74.0
Shears (on backhoe)	40	85	96	5	79.0	75.0	100	90.0	86.0
Slurry Plant	100	78	78	1	72.0	72.0	100	72.0	72.0
Slurry Trenching Machine	50	82	80	75	76.0	73.0	100	74.0	71.0
Soil Mix Drill Rig	50	80	na	0	74.0	71.0	100		
Tractor	40	84	na	0	78.0	74.0	100		
Vacuum Excavator (Vac-tru	40	85	85	149	79.0	75.0	100	79.0	75.0
Vacuum Street Sweeper	10	80	82	19	74.0	64.0	100	76.0	66.0



Ventilation Fan	100	85	79	13	79.0	79.0	100	73.0	73.0
Vibrating Hopper	50	85	87	1	79.0	76.0	100	81.0	78.0
Vibratory Concrete Mixer	20	80	80	1	74.0	67.0	100	74.0	67.0
Vibratory Pile Driver	20	95	101	44	89.0	82.0	100	95.0	88.0
Warning Horn	5	85	83	12	79.0	66.0	100	77.0	64.0
Welder / Torch	40	73	74	5	67.0	63.0	100	68.0	64.0

Source:

FHWA Roadway Construction Noise Model, January 2006. Table 9.1

U.S. Department of Transportation

CA/T Construction Spec. 721.560

## Attenuation Calculations for Substation Noise Sources

**KEY:** Orange cells are for input.

Grey cells are intermediate calculations performed by the model.

Green cells are data to present in a written analysis (output).

**STEP 1: Identify the noise source and enter the reference noise level (dBA and distance).**

**STEP 2: Select the ground type (hard or soft), and enter the source and receiver heights.**

**STEP 3: Select the distance to the receiver.**

Noise Source/ID	Reference Noise Level			Attenuation Characteristics				Attenuated Noise Level at Receptor		
	noise level (dBA)	@	distance (ft)	Ground Type (soft/hard)	Source Height (ft)	Receiver Height (ft)	Ground Factor	noise level (dBA)	@	distance (ft)
Substation (45 Leq)	55.0	@	50	soft	8	5	0.63	45.0	@	120
substation (50 L50/Leq)	55.0	@	50	soft	8	5	0.63	49.6	@	80

**Notes:**

Estimates of attenuated noise levels do not account for reductions from intervening barriers, including walls, trees, vegetation, or structures of any type.

Computation of the attenuated noise level is based on the equation presented on pg. 176 and 177 of FTA 2018.

Computation of the ground factor is based on the equation presented in Table 4-26 on pg. 86 of FTA 2018, where the distance of the reference noise level can be adjusted and the usage factor is not applied (i.e., the usage factor is equal to 1).

**Sources:**

Federal Transit Association (FTA). 2018 (September). Transit Noise and Vibration Impact Assessment. Washington, D.C. Available:  
<<http://www.transit.dot.gov/sites/fta.dot.gov/files/docs/research-innovation/118131/transit-noise-and-vibration-impact-assessment-manual-fta-report-no->

Ground Type

hard

soft

# Distance Propagation Calculations for Construction Sources of Ground Vibration



**KEY:** Orange cells are for input.

Grey cells are intermediate calculations performed by the model.

Green cells are data to present in a written analysis (output).

## STEP 1: Determine units in which to perform calculation.

- If vibration decibels (VdB), then use Table A and proceed to Steps 2A and 3A.
- If peak particle velocity (PPV), then use Table B and proceed to Steps 2B and 3B.

## STEP 2A: Identify the vibration source and enter the reference vibration level (VdB) and distance.

**Table A. Propagation of vibration decibels (VdB) with distance**

Noise Source/ID	Reference Noise Level		
	vibration level (VdB)	@	distance (ft)
drilling	87	@	25

## STEP 3A: Select the distance to the receiver.

Attenuated Noise Level at Receptor		
vibration level (VdB)	@	distance (ft)
79.9	@	43

The Lv metric (VdB) is used to assess the likelihood for vibration to result in human annoyance.

## STEP 2B: Identify the vibration source and enter the reference peak particle velocity (PPV) and distance.

**Table B. Propagation of peak particle velocity (PPV) with distance**

Noise Source/ID	Reference Noise Level		
	vibration level (PPV)	@	distance (ft)
drilling	0.089	@	25

## STEP 3B: Select the distance to the receiver.

Attenuated Noise Level at Receptor		
vibration level (PPV)	@	distance (ft)
0.191	@	15

The PPV metric (in/sec) is used for assessing the likelihood for the potential of structural damage.

### Notes:

Computation of propagated vibration levels is based on the equations presented on pg. 185 of FTA 2018. Estimates of attenuated vibration levels do not account for reductions from intervening underground barriers or other underground structures of any type, or changes in soil type.

### Sources:

Federal Transit Administration. 2018. Transit Noise and Vibration Impact Assessment. FTA Report No. 0123. Prepared by John A. Volpe National Transportation Systems Center, Cambridge, MA. Available: [https://www.transit.dot.gov/sites/fta.dot.gov/files/docs/research-innovation/118131/transit-noise-and-vibration-impact-assessment-manual-fta-report-no-0123\\_0.pdf](https://www.transit.dot.gov/sites/fta.dot.gov/files/docs/research-innovation/118131/transit-noise-and-vibration-impact-assessment-manual-fta-report-no-0123_0.pdf). Accessed April 8, 2020.

Ground Type

hard

soft