



**Hooven Productions, LLC**

**Noise Source Assessment and Mitigation Plan**

APN: 511-141-015

Humboldt County, CA

---



April 2021

# Contents

Objective .....	3
Proposed Project Overview .....	3
Site Description and Sensitive Receptors .....	3
Analysis of Existing Ambient Noise Levels .....	3
Noise Sources Associated with Proposed Project.....	5
Anticipated Noise Levels .....	5
Proposed Noise Attenuation Measures .....	5
Monitoring .....	6
Conclusion .....	6

## **Appendices:**

A: Site Map



## Objective

The purpose of this Noise Source Assessment and Mitigation Plan is to evaluate the potential impacts from the proposed project and describe how the project will conform with the Performance Standard set forth in Section 55.4.12.6 – Performance Standard for Noise at Cultivation Sites in the Humboldt County Ordinance No. 2599, Commercial Cannabis Land Use Ordinance (CCLUO). Evaluation of potential noise impacts including the establishment of onsite ambient and maximum noise levels, identification of proposed project noise sources, and modeling of proposed project noise sources in relation to current onsite noise.

## Proposed Project Overview

Hooven Productions, LLC is proposing additional commercial cannabis cultivation activities for this parcel in accordance with the County of Humboldt's (County) *Commercial Cannabis Land Use Ordinance* (CCLUO), aka "Ordinance 2.0".

The project is approved for 10,000 ft<sup>2</sup> of outdoor mixed light and is proposing a Special Permit for an additional 33,560 ft<sup>2</sup> for a total of 43,560 ft<sup>2</sup> (1 acre) mixed light cultivation on parcel 511-141-015. The project includes the permitting of proposed facilities appurtenant to the cultivation including greenhouses, outdoor cultivation areas, and other cannabis related out buildings.

## Site Description and Sensitive Receptors

The project site is located at 2260 Hooven Rd. McKinleyville, CA in Humboldt County APN: 511-141-015. The combined ~16-acre property is located at an elevation of approximately 400 feet above sea level.

Current infrastructure is being evaluated for this noise assessment. Proposed infrastructure will be evaluated upon plan completion and building installation.

All electricity demand is met by electricity sourced from Pacific Gas & Electric Company (PG&E). A backup generator is kept on site for use during an emergency.

See the attached site map for locations of existing and proposed infrastructure, adjacent residences, and associated setbacks.

The property has mainly flat terrain, with slopes ranging from 2-10%, and has historically been used for mainly residential purposes. The site has General Plan Land Use Designation of Residential Estates (RE) and is zoned Residential Agricultural (RA5-20-AP). Land uses surrounding the parcel are comprised of residential, timber and agriculture.

There are several neighboring residences surrounding the project site. The closest neighboring residence is located approximately 530 feet from the nearest proposed cultivation activity. The surrounding neighboring parcels are shown on the attached site map.

## Analysis of Existing Ambient Noise Levels

This section summarizes the data collection procedures that were taken to analyze the existing ambient noise levels within the project site. The *existing ambient noise level* is defined as the baseline of sound pressure experienced in an area prior to the proposed cannabis cultivation activities. Existing ambient noise levels included natural and human-induced noise.



Four (4) Monitoring Locations were established throughout the parcel to gather noise levels at property lines (closest to sensitive receptors such as neighboring houses) and habitat areas (closest to sensitive receptors such as wildlife). Table 1 below describes the Monitoring Locations in more detail and the locations can be seen on the site map attached in Appendix A.

Table 1: Monitoring Location Details

Monitoring Location	Lat., Long.	Description & Notes	Impact Potential
#1	40.96854°, -124.08399°	Eastern property line, near gate	Adjacent parcel
#2	40.96799°, -124.08525 °	Southern section of property near cultivation activity	Forested area on south
#3	40.96939°, -124.08633°	Western property line	Neighboring Residence
#4	40.96978°, -124.08519°	North eastern entrance to property	Adjacent parcel

The sound level was measured in decibels using a type 2 digital sound meter which utilizes an A-weighted filter network (dB(A)). The digital sound meter was mounted to a tripod, allowing it to be positioned approximately 2 feet above the ground to minimize ground noise and maximize unobstructed sound readings. Measurements were taken on March 30<sup>th</sup>, 2021, which was a warm, clear day with a mild intermittent breeze.

Measurement readings of 15 minutes were taken at all Monitoring Locations. During the readings, data was collected on the noise levels and detailed notes were taken whenever the noise level increased from outside activity. Examples of outside activity included traffic from the nearby roadway, construction noises from neighboring parcel, and any noise not associated with the proposed project. During the measurements, extreme care was taken to minimize noise disturbance from the operator. Recordings of noise levels began once all rustling from the operator was not interfering the meter.

After the measurements were taken, a log was created detailing what outside activity was associated with the increased noise level. The data was then analyzed to determine the existing ambient noise levels. The results from this analysis are presented in Table 2. Table 2 displays the Monitoring Location, the average decibel reading throughout the measurement, the maximum decibel reading, and the outside noise associated with the maximum decibel readings.

Table 2: Onsite Noise Analysis Results

Location	Average Decibel Reading (dBA)	Max Noise Level Measured (dBA)	Max Noise Level Association Description
#1	33.4	43	Construction noise from neighbor
#2	48.8	62.2	Owner talking with contractor
#3	52.5	62.3	Neighbors weed whacker
#4	40.9	67.6	Truck travelling past driveway



In general, the existing average noise levels range from approximately 33.4 dBA to 52.5 dBA. The truck driving past the driveway was determined to be the loudest source of noise.

## Noise Sources Associated with Proposed Project

The project is approved for 10,000 ft<sup>2</sup> of outdoor mixed light and is proposing a Special Permit for an additional 33,560 ft<sup>2</sup> for a total of 43,560 ft<sup>2</sup> (1 acre) mixed light cultivation on parcel 511-141-015. The 1-acre of mixed-light cultivation will be planted in raised beds, which will be in the existing and proposed greenhouses. Artificial lights and fans will be used in each of the greenhouses. See the site map in Appendix A for details of the cultivation areas.

All greenhouses will utilize black out tarps so no artificial light escapes. Each of the greenhouses will utilize circulation fans and ventilation/exhaust fans.

The fans will be powered by an DC circuit and will be equipped with variable speed controllers to allow for adjustment of fan speed. The fan speed is directly related to the noise of the fan.

Drying and curing of harvested cannabis will occur but is currently proposed to be done in the metal building on site near the cultivation area. Small indoor fans and dehumidifiers will be utilized in the drying building. It is anticipated that noise from the fans and dehumidifiers will not be audibly heard from outside the drying building.

Energy requirements for all proposed cultivation activities is proposed to be met by energy provided by Pacific Gas & Electric (PG&E). The location of the existing and proposed buildings and facilities can be seen on the site map in Appendix A.

## Anticipated Noise Levels

Noise from the proposed cultivation activities is not anticipated to result in an increase of more than three (3) decibels of continuous noise above existing ambient noise levels. Furthermore, the noise levels at all Monitoring Locations are anticipated to be less than 50 dBA. For the sound measurements taken on March 30<sup>th</sup>, the average measurement taken at location #3 is more than 50 dBA but this is due to the neighboring parcel owner using a weed whacker near the fence line for most of the recording period.

## Proposed Noise Attenuation Measures

All greenhouses will be constructed from aluminum, timber and will be covered with a thick plastic skin. Each greenhouse will be equipped with circulation fans and exhaust fans. The circulation fans will be located within the greenhouses and attached to either the ceiling or the wall of the greenhouses. Excess noise from the circulation fans is not anticipated to escape from the greenhouse. The exhaust fans will be located on either end of the greenhouse to allow fresh air to enter and escape. The exhaust fans are positioned in a way that poses a potential for excess noise to escape from the greenhouses.

Each of the ventilation/circulation fans will be equipped with a variable speed controller, allowing for precise adjustment of the fan speed. Measuring of noise levels will recur a regular basis following the proposed activities. If the noise levels are measured to be higher than the anticipated levels, the fans will be adjusted, reducing the noise output from the fans, and reducing the noise impact at the subject monitoring location.

The components of the proposed buildings/facilities that will be used for cultivation and related activities, including walls, doors, foundation, roof, and ventilation components will be constructed



of materials that have appropriate Sound Transmission Class (STC) Ratings to allow the reduction of generated noise to 50 decibels (dBA) maximum at the tree line adjacent to the generator shed location.

### Monitoring

Measuring of noise levels will recur a regular basis following the proposed activities. If the noise levels are measured to be higher than the anticipated levels, further measures will be implemented to reduce the noise output from the project's activity.

Off-site noise includes, but is not limited to, neighboring or adjacent resident activity, nearby vehicle traffic, and all other activities not related to the proposed project or parcel. If the increase from off-site noise sources occurs, it would not be anticipated to be significant.

### Conclusion

Hooven Productions, LLC , Inc aims to meet the noise levels and mitigations set forth in this report. Following the recommendations set forth in this report, the proposed noise sources from the project are not expected to increase onsite ambient noise levels and compliance with Performance Standard 55.4.12.6 will be met. Noise from the proposed cultivation activities is not anticipated to result in an increase of more than three (3) decibels of continuous noise above existing ambient noise levels. Furthermore, the noise levels at all Monitoring Locations are anticipated to be less than 50 dBA.

To ensure that cultivation activities comply with the Performance Standards, future noise measurements will be taken at the same monitoring locations to ensure no disturbance is occurring to habitat or to neighboring residences.



# Appendix A

Hooven Productions, LLC

Property Diagram APN:

511-141-015

Address: 2260 Hooven Rd. McKinleyville, CA, 95519



Figure 1: Property Diagram with associated Location of the four (4) noise testing sites, area of cultivation, neighboring residences and parcels, and setbacks to cultivation.



Figure 2: Property map showing area of cultivation and slightly zoomed out to show more of adjacent residences and parcels.