

How Loud Is It?

Sawmills

Here are some average sawmill noise exposures. Note: individual worker's exposures may vary from these exposures. Noise-induced hearing loss results from a combination of high sound levels and extended periods of exposure to sounds above 85 dBA.

Protect your hearing when performing these jobs.

1. Noise Exposure Levels

These are all 8 hour
(or equivalent) exposures

Barker (booth).....	83 dBA
Cut Off (booth)	81 dBA
Drop Sorter	95 dBA
Edger.....	95 dBA
Forklift.....	90 dBA
Grader	96 dBA
Greenchain.....	89 dBA
Millwright.....	91 dBA
Sawfiler.....	90 dBA
Supervisor.....	92 dBA
Trimmer	97 dBA

2. Hearing Protection Devices

Hearing protection should be selected based on:

- noise exposure
- communication demands
- hearing ability
- use of other personal protective devices
- temperature and climate
- physical characteristics of the job or worker

Noise Level	Recommended HPD
Less than 90 dBA	Class C, Grade 1
Less than 95.....	Class B, Grade 2
Less than 100.....	Class A, Grade 3
Less than 105.....	Class A, Grade 4
Less than 110.....	Earplugs+Earmuffs

