

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 7/31/2022 4:28:16 PM

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Comments: The first rule of any "universal framework" is to state explicitly that there are no universal criteria; at best, guiding principles.

For example, I would suggest explicitly stating in your framework that there are forest types, especially closed conifer stands/species, which include lodgepole pine, where the older the stand is, the more prone it is to natural stand-replacing fire. It is even possible that beyond a certain age, older stands start to become "pathologically mature". I think this qualification can be produced, but an additional issue will be to decide which forest types to include in such a caveat (ponderosa? I think not).