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Comments: Criteria for a universal framework definition: The definition of "mature and old-growth" forest should be defined as those stands which approach or embody the characteristics of that forest type prior to the advent of large-scale, commercial, industrial logging and extraction, and prior to the exclusion and suppression of indigenous management practices and indigenous authority.

Overarching characteristics: For each forest type, of which there are many, "mature and old-growth" should be defined as having forest structure and function as it would have been prior to the exclusion of indigenous management practices and the exclusion of indigenous authority.

What should the definition exclude? The definition should exclude attempts to define old-growth forest by such terms as "untouched," "pristine," "virgin," which erase the history of indigenous relationships with forests through active management practices for millennia prior to colonization.