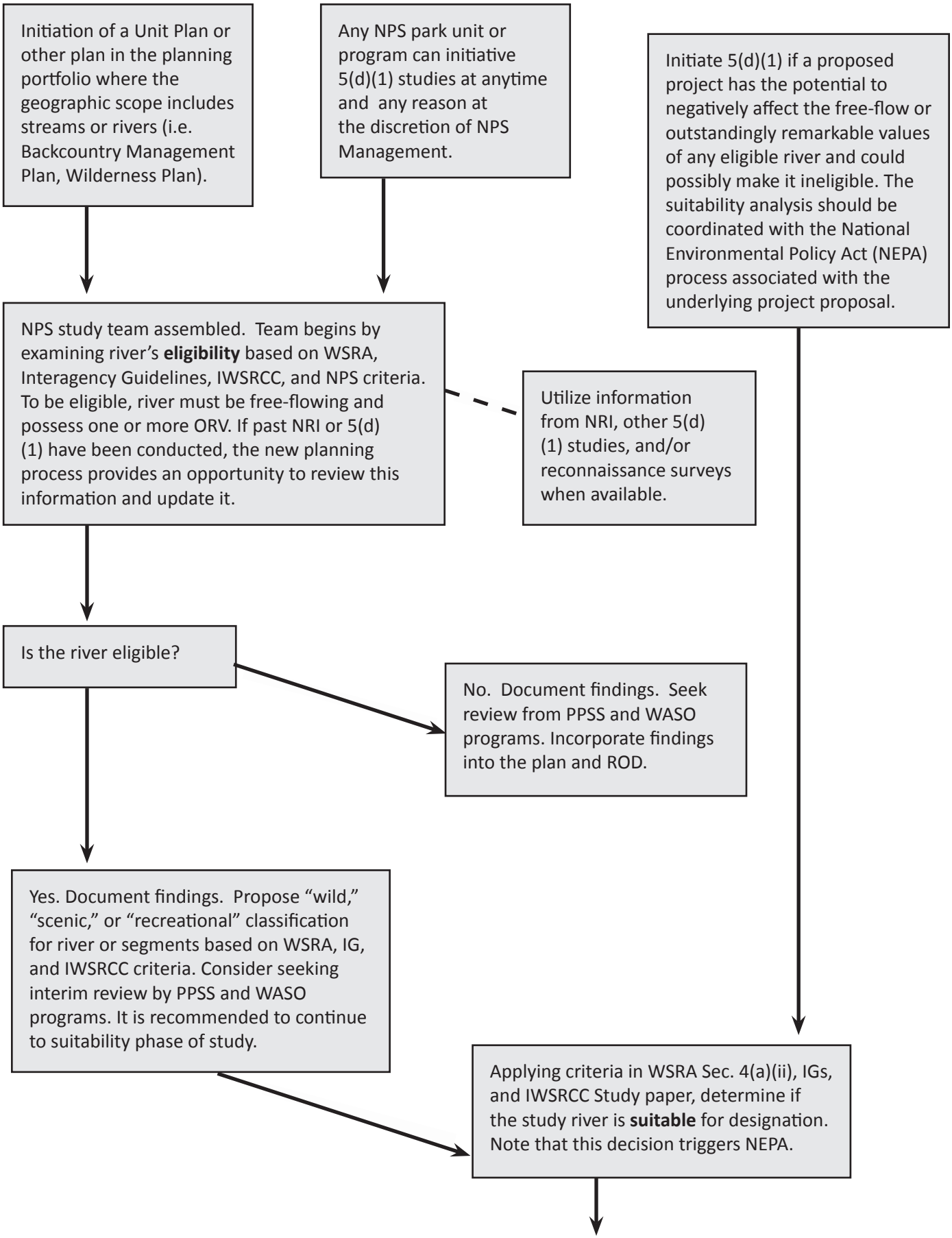
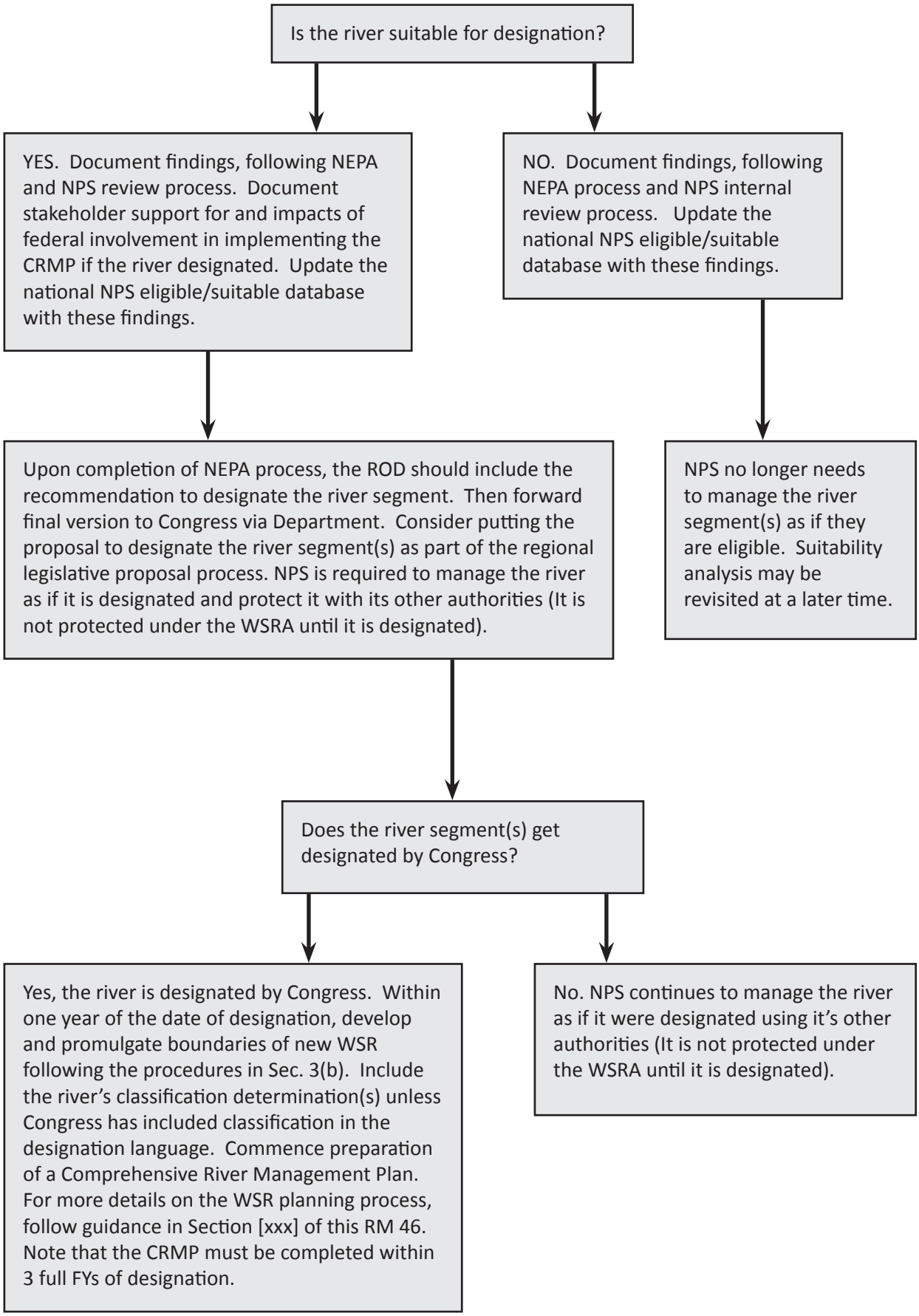
Study Process under Section 5(d)(1) of the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act




Is the river suitable for designation?
YES. Document findings, following NEPA and NPS review process. Document stakeholder support for and impacts of federal involvement in implementing the CRMP if the river designated. Update the national NPS eligible/suitable database with these findings.
NO. Document findings, following NEPA process and NPS internal review process. Update the national NPS eligible/suitable database with these findings.
Upon completion of NEPA process, the ROD should include the recommendation to designate the river segment. Then forward final version to Congress via Department. Consider putting the proposal to designate the river segment(s) as part of the regional legislative proposal process. NPS is required to manage the river as if it is designated and protect it with its other authorities (It is not protected under the WSRA until it is designated).
NPS no longer needs to manage the river segment(s) as if they are eligible. Suitability analysis may be revisited at a later time.
Does the river segment(s) get designated by Congress?
Yes, the river is designated by Congress. Within one year of the date of designation, develop and promulgate boundaries of new WSR following the procedures in Sec. 3(b). Include the river's classification determination(s) unless Congress has included classification in the designation language. Commence preparation of a Comprehensive River Management Plan. For more details on the WSR planning process, follow guidance in Section [xxx] of this RM 46. Note that the CRMP must be completed within 3 full FYs of designation.
No. NPS continues to manage the river as if it were designated using it's other authorities (It is not protected under the WSRA until it is designated).