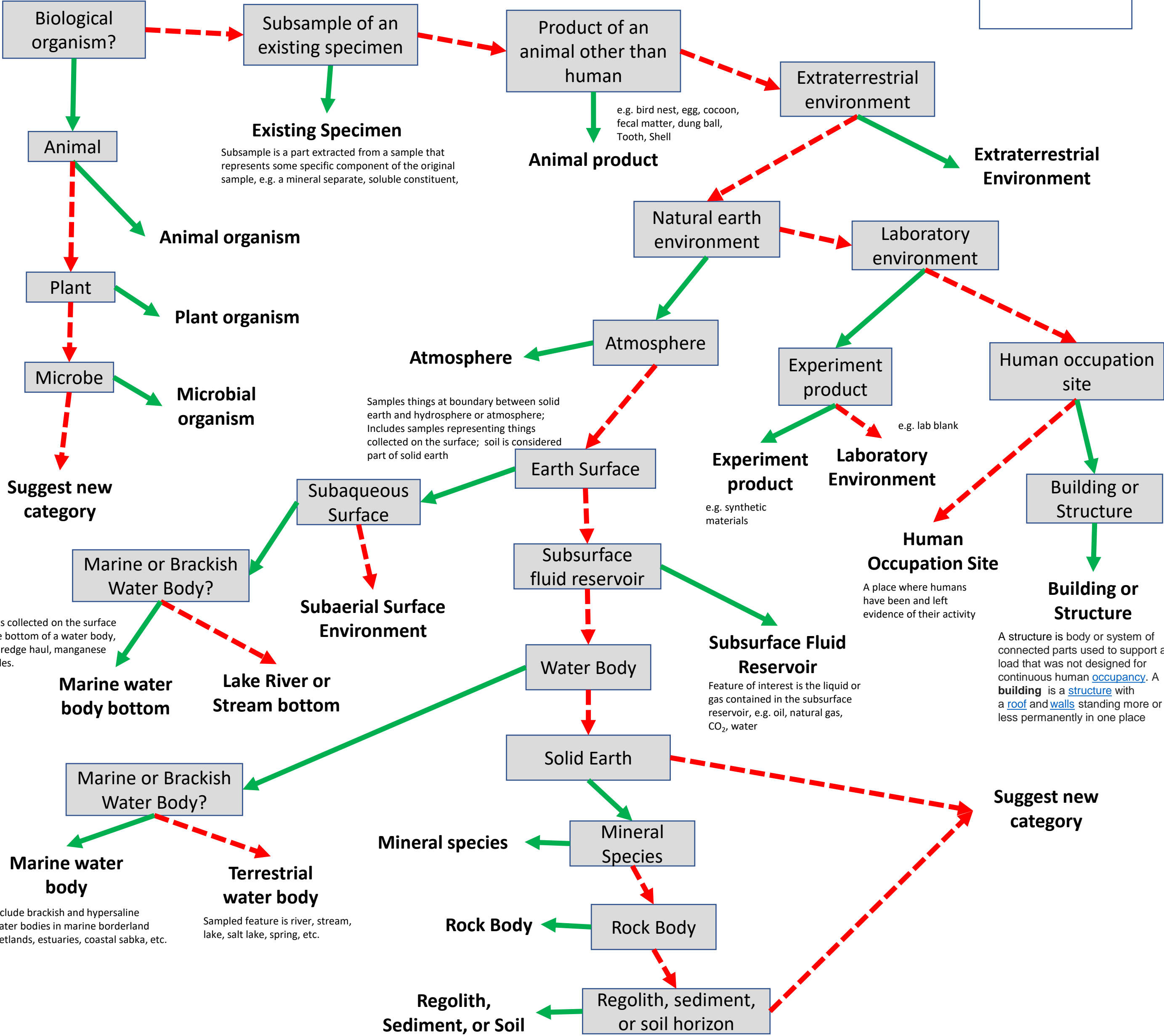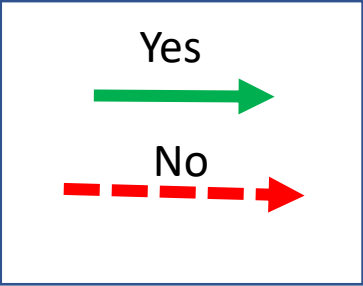# iSamples Sampled Feature Decision Tree

START

NOTE: This categorization is intentional– what was the sample collected originally to represent? Recognizing that the sample might actually have multiple contexts of interest not recognized at initial collection.

Legend:
- Yes (green solid arrow)
- No (red dashed arrow)

Biological organism? → **Animal** → **Animal organism**
→ **Plant** → **Plant organism**
→ **Microbe** → **Microbial organism**
→ **Suggest new category**

Subsample of an existing specimen → **Existing Specimen**
Subsample is a part extracted from a sample that represents some specific component of the original sample, e.g. a mineral separate, soluble constituent,

Product of an animal other than human → **Animal product**
e.g. bird nest, egg, cocoon, fecal matter, dung ball, Tooth, Shell

Extraterrestrial environment → **Extraterrestrial Environment**

Natural earth environment → **Atmosphere**
Samples things at boundary between solid earth and hydrosphere or atmosphere; Includes samples representing things collected on the surface; soil is considered part of solid earth

Laboratory environment → **Experiment product** → **Experiment product**
e.g. synthetic materials
→ **Laboratory Environment**
e.g. lab blank

Human occupation site → **Human Occupation Site**
A place where humans have been and left evidence of their activity
→ **Building or Structure** → **Building or Structure**
A structure is body or system of connected parts used to support a load that was not designed for continuous human occupancy. A **building** is a structure with a roof and walls standing more or less permanently in one place

Earth Surface → **Subaqueous Surface** → **Marine or Brackish Water Body?** → **Marine water body bottom**
Things collected on the surface at the bottom of a water body, e.g. dredge haul, manganese nodules.
→ **Lake River or Stream bottom**
→ **Subaerial Surface Environment**

Subsurface fluid reservoir → **Subsurface Fluid Reservoir**
Feature of interest is the liquid or gas contained in the subsurface reservoir, e.g. oil, natural gas, CO_2, water

Water Body → **Marine or Brackish Water Body?** → **Marine water body**
Include brackish and hypersaline water bodies in marine borderland wetlands, estuaries, coastal sabka, etc.
→ **Terrestrial water body**
Sampled feature is river, stream, lake, salt lake, spring, etc.

Solid Earth → **Mineral Species** → **Mineral species**
→ **Rock Body** → **Rock Body**
→ **Regolith, sediment, or soil horizon** → **Regolith, Sediment, or Soil**
→ **Suggest new category**