

# Sea life Devastated by Molasses Spill

Honolulu Harbor , HI  
September 9, 2013

On September 9, 2013, a reported 1,400 tons of molasses was inadvertently spilled into Honolulu Harbor in Hawaii, devastating the sea life.

A Cause Map visually lays out the causes that contribute to an accident to show the cause-and-effect relationships between them so that it's easier to understand the factors that led to the issue. Understanding all the causes and not just focusing on a single "root cause" helps broaden the potential solutions that are considered and can lead to a better long term solution. The first step in the Cause Mapping process is to define how the problem impacted the goals and then these impacts are used as the starting point for the Cause Map.

Cause Mapping is a Root Cause Analysis method that captures basic cause-and-effect relationships supported with evidence.

## CAUSE MAPPING

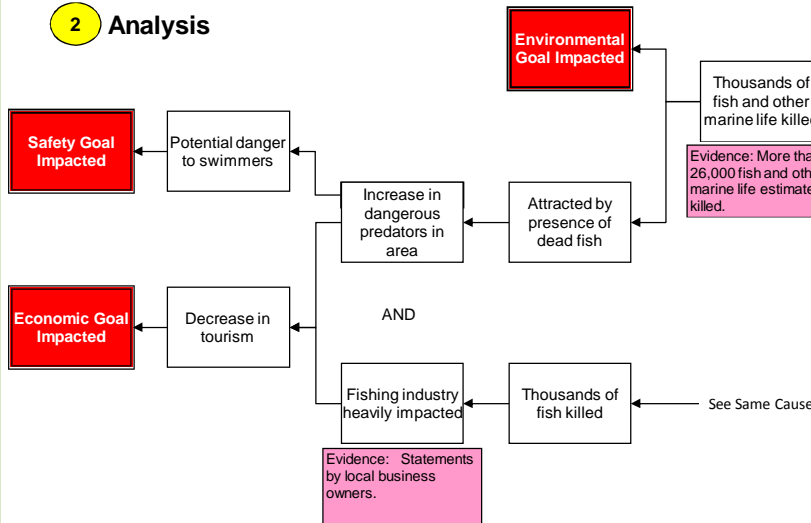
Problem Solving • Incident Investigation • Root Cause Analysis

- Step 1 Problem** What's the Problem?
- Step 2 Analysis** Why did it happen?
- Step 3 Solutions** What will be done?

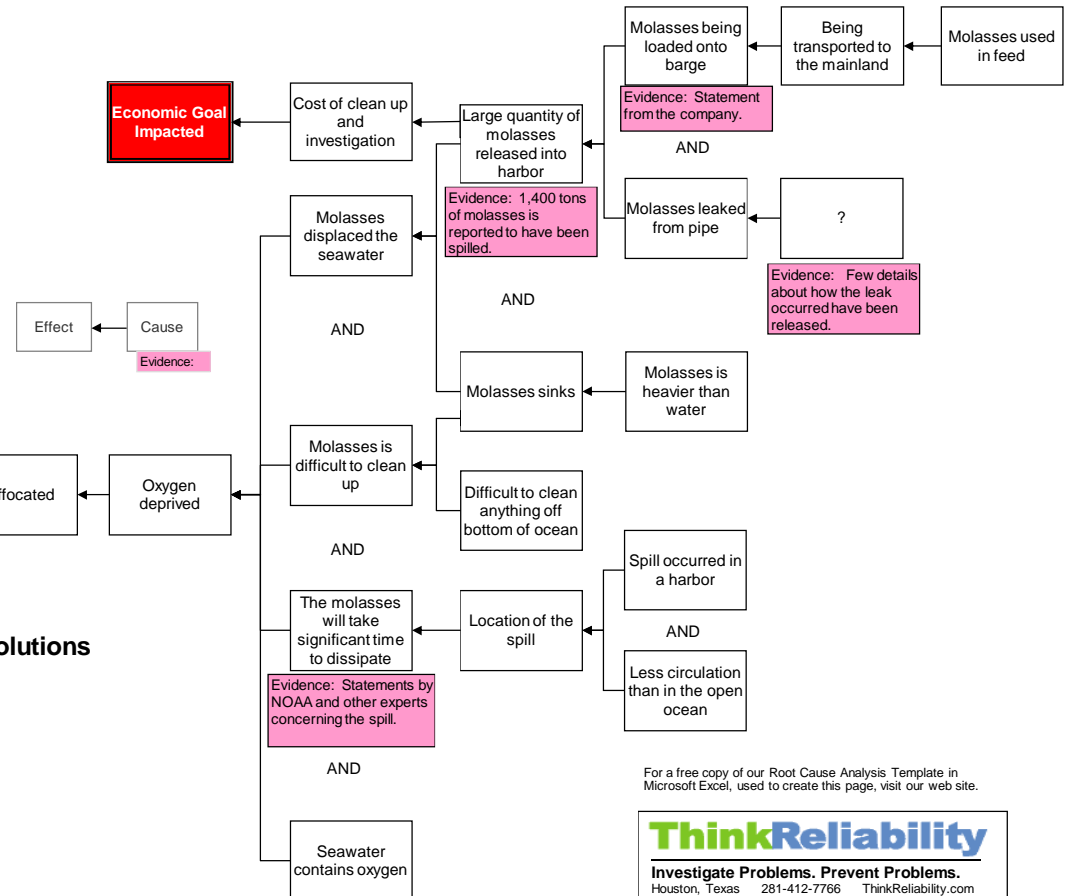
### 1 Problem

<b>What</b>	Problem(s)	Massive molasses spill, thousands of fish killed, loss of tourism
<b>When</b>	Date	September 9, 2013
	Location	Honolulu Harbor , HI
	Differences	Pumping molasses onto barge
<b>Impact to the Goals</b>		
	<b>Environmental</b>	Thousands of fish and other marine life killed
	<b>Economic</b>	Decrease in tourism
	<b>Economic</b>	Cost of clean up and investigation
	<b>Safety</b>	Potential danger to swimmers

### 2 Analysis



### 3 Solutions



For a free copy of our Root Cause Analysis Template in Microsoft Excel, used to create this page, visit our web site.

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