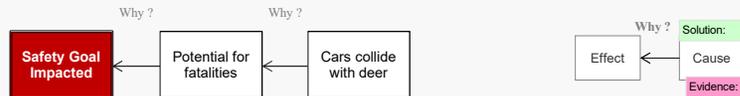


1 Problem

What	Problem(s)	Growing deer population results in more deer / car collisions
When	Date	Ongoing
	Time	Early morning or late evening
Where	Facility, site	Eastern part of the United States
	Task being performed	Driving
Impact to the Goals		
	Safety	Potential for fatalities
	Property/ Equipment	Cars damaged or destroyed

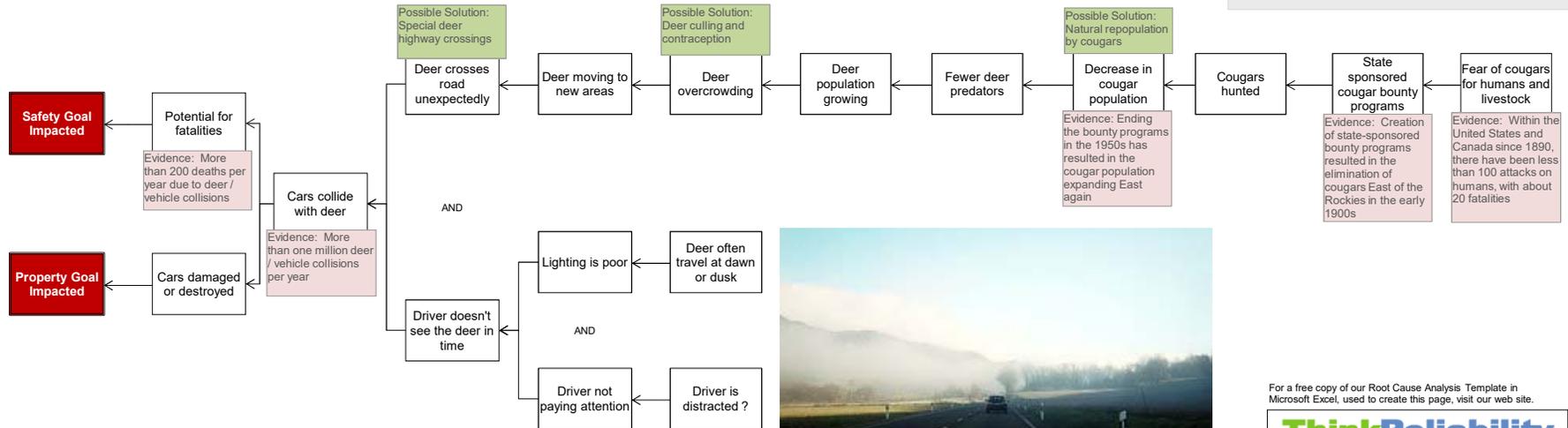
2 Analysis

Basic Level Cause Map - Start with simple Why questions.



More Detailed Cause Map - Add detail as information becomes available.

3 Solutions



THE SOLUTION TO AMERICA'S MOST UNEXPECTEDLY DANGEROUS MAMMAL

Cause Map

It's hard to imagine that the mammal responsible for over 200 human deaths in America each year is the cute, cuddly... deer. These beautiful and seemingly harmless animals are hardly malicious. Instead, they are in the wrong place at the wrong time, resulting in more than one million deer / vehicle collisions each year. While the drivers have partial responsibility in these collisions, it seems that changes in the food chain have also contributed to this situation. Decrease in the cougar population resulted in overpopulation of deer.

A Cause Map is a helpful tool to dissect the cause-and-effect relationships contributing to a problem or situation. Starting with the goals that were impacted, the causes and effects can be linked to create a chain. For this situation, we begin with the safety goal that is impacted by the many fatalities each year. Asking 'Why?' questions, we can dig deeper to understand what causes are behind the impacted goal.

The Cause Map is also helpful in that it allows us to document the evidence and potential solutions directly on the causes that they can impact. For example, statistics about the number of collisions each year, fatalities each year, and cougar population changes are included right below the causes that they support. Similarly, possible solutions are added right above the causes that they can impact. In this case, deer culling and contraception could help control the deer overcrowding, and special deer highway crossings could help mitigate the deer crossing the road unexpectedly. However, nature's solution - the natural repopulation of the cougar - seems to fit further back in the chain by impacting the cause that is the decrease in the cougar population. Time will tell if this solution can, in fact, reduce the number of collisions and injuries as predicted.



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?



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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