

FreeBSD Administration - Feature #797

Recover Files From a ZFS Snapshot

04/12/2016 08:23 PM - Daniel Curtis

Status:	Closed	Start date:	04/12/2016
Priority:	Immediate	Due date:	
Assignee:	Daniel Curtis	% Done:	100%
Category:	File Server	Estimated time:	0.50 hour
Target version:	FreeBSD 9	Spent time:	2.00 hours

Description

I accidentally deleted a bunch of important files from a jail that was running FreeNAS 9.3; but will work on FreeBSD as well. Luckily, I had setup my jails to have periodic snapshots taken for just this very reason.

ZFS to the rescue!

- Log into the FreeNAS administration panel and open a **Shell**.
- Check the status of the `snapdir` for the examplejail jail zvol:

```
zfs get snapdir zpool/jails/examplejail
```

- *Example output:*

NAME	PROPERTY	VALUE	SOURCE
zpool/jails/examplejail	snapdir	hidden	default

- Set the `snapdir` value to visible:

```
zfs set snapdir=visible zpool/jails/examplejail
```

- Check which snapshots are available:

```
ls /mnt/zpool/jails/examplejail/.zfs/snapshot/
```

- *Example output:*

```
auto-20160330.0900-2w  auto-20160405.0900-2w  auto-20160411.0900-2w
auto-20160331.0900-2w  auto-20160406.0900-2w  auto-20160412.0900-2w
auto-20160401.0900-2w  auto-20160407.0900-2w
auto-20160404.0900-2w  auto-20160408.0900-2w
```

- Now use `rsync` to copy the files back to the original jail:

```
rsync -avh -n /mnt/zpool/jails/examplejail/.zfs/snapshot/auto-20160411.0900-2w/var/vmail/vmail1/example.com/bob/ /mnt/zpool/jails/examplejail/var/vmail/vmail1/example.com/bob/
```

- **NOTE:** Make sure to **remove** the `-n` (dryrun) flag to run the sync for real, or else you won't actually be copying the data.

- When the sync is complete set the example jail zvol `snapdir` property back to hidden:

```
zfs set snapdir=hidden zpool/jails/examplejail
```

Resources

- <https://www.freebsd.org/doc/handbook/zfs-zfs.html>
- <https://wiki.freebsd.org/ZFSQuickStartGuide>

History

#1 - 04/12/2016 09:37 PM - Daniel Curtis

- Status changed from *New* to *Resolved*
- % Done changed from *0* to *100*

#2 - 04/22/2016 05:06 PM - Daniel Curtis

- Status changed from *Resolved* to *Closed*