

Deploying Qumulo Clusters Using the AWS-SA-WAF-CLUSTER CloudFormation Template

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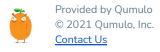
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Intended Audience

This document is intended for anyone using the AWS Qumulo Solution Architect (SA) Well Architected Framework (WAF) Cluster CloudFormation templates. These templates and associated files are referred to simply as the aws-sa-waf-cluster. This document is comprehensive and experienced AWS users may find it repetitive or obvious. Less experienced users will benefit from the detailed documentation. Leverage the Table of Contents to jump to the area of interest.

Overview

This guide provides instructions for deploying the aws-sa-waf-cluster set of templates in AWS to fully provision the infrastructure for a Qumulo cluster. Any subsequent configuration for the file data platform is outside the scope of this document. Refer to the Qumulo Knowledge Base for further information.

Software Licences

Prior to executing any of the aws-sa-waf-cluster templates a Qumulo AMI subscription must be accepted in the AWS Marketplace for a chosen AWS account. The templates documented here are much more comprehensive than those available by default in the AWS Marketplace, so don't deploy from the AWS Marketplace. Simply accept the offer for the AMI of interest and close the AWS Marketplace session.





Architecture

Deploying the aws-sa-waf-cluster templates will instantiate the following infrastructure in AWS.

AWS Cloud ₽≕ AWS Secrets AWS Identity & AWS Systems Amazon S3 Amazon Simple Amazon Manager Access Mamt. Manager Notification Srvc CloudWatch VPC Availability-Zone-A Private Subnet 1 Public Subnet 1 **EXISTING EXISTING** Metrics Monitoring Qumulo Sidecar Qumulo Management **EXISTING** Qumulo Core Internet Amazon Elastic Router NAT Gateway Gateway 4 to 10 instances with EIP m5 or c5n (EBS) 1.4TB to 3PB **Usable Capacity** 奥 Provisioner Elastic IP Instance (Auto shutdown)

Qumulo WAF Deployment in an Existing VPC - Limited by Cloud Formation Template to 1TB-3PB of Capacity

As shown in Figure 1, the CloudFormation template expects the following:

- A VPC configured with a private subnet, public subnet, NAT gateway, and Internet Gateway
 - This basic infrastructure and the associated route tables are required to provide the automation infrastructure and cluster Internet connectivity.





As shown in Figure 1, the CloudFormation template sets up the following:

- A cluster of Qumulo EC2 instances
 - 4 to 10 nodes
 - o 1TB to 3PB of usable capacity
- Multiple AWS Elastic Block Store (EBS) volumes connected to the Qumulo cluster
 - EBS Volume configurations (ie Disk Configs) vary depending on AMI ID
 - All flash (SSD) and Hybrid (SSD+HDD) Disk Configs are available
- The Qumulo Sidecar which consists of two Lambda functions
 - One Lambda function sends metrics for the cluster to Cloudwatch
 - The other Lambda function monitors the health of EBS volumes and automatically replaces any unhealthy volumes
- (Optional) AWS Route 53 private hosted zone
 - If R53 is resolving all DNS for the VPC then a R53 private hosted zone may be optionally provisioned to configure DNS A-records for the cluster.
- (Optional) Public IP Management
 - If desired a Network Load Balancer with an Elastic IP (public static) may also be configured
 - Note, this NLB listens only on port 443 and has some inherent DoS capabilities.
 - As a best practice the cluster should be managed long-term via a secure host in the public or private subnet.
 - This functionality is only intended for initial configuration inspection and validation in the event no other EC2 machines exist in the VPC to manage the cluster

Provisioner

- An EC2 instance configures multiple parameters on the Qumulo cluster and within the AWS infrastructure
- This instance automatically shuts down after successful provisioning
- It is also restarted during stack updates to provision modifications to the infrastructure





Planning the Deployment

Specialized Knowledge

Deploying this template requires only a moderate level of familiarity with AWS services. If you're new to AWS, see https://aws.amazon.com/getting-started/.

AWS Account

Deployment of this template requires an AWS account. If you don't have an account visit https://aws.amazon.com.

Technical Requirements

Before you launch the template, review the following information and requirements and ensure that your account and privileges are properly configured. Otherwise the deployment may fail.

Resource Quotas

Review current quota utilization and ensure that resources are available for the resources required for this deployment.

Resource	This Deployment Uses
Elastic IP (optional for Public Management)	1
Security Groups	2
AWS IAM roles	4
m5.2xlarge, m5.4xlarge, m5.8xlarge, m5.16xlarge, c5n.9xlarge, or c5n.18xlarge	4 to 10 of the chosen instance type and associated vCPUs
Lambda functions	2
EBS TiB (gp2, st1, or sc1)	Chosen Disk Config TiB x # of EC2 instances



Supported Regions

Review current quota utilization and ensure that resources are available for the resources required for this deployment.

Americas

- us-east-1, US East (N. Virginia)
- us-east-2, US East (Ohio)
- us-west-1, US West (N. California)
- us-west-2, US West (Oregon)
- us-gov-west-1
- us-gov-east-1
- ca-central-1, Canada (Central)
- sa-east-1, South America (São Paulo)

Asia Pacific

- ap-northeast-1, Asia Pacific (Tokyo)
- ap-northeast-2, Asia Pacific (Seoul)
- ap-south-1, Asia Pacific (Mumbai)
- ap-southeast-1, Asia Pacific (Singapore)
- ap-southeast-2, Asia Pacific (Sydney)
- ap-east-1, Asia Pacific (Hong Kong)

Europe/Middle East/Africa

- eu-central-1, Europe (Frankfurt)
- eu-west-1, Europe (Ireland)
- eu-west-2, Europe (London)
- eu-west-3, Europe (Paris)
- eu-north-1, Europe (Stockholm)
- eu-south-1, Europe (Milan)
- me-south-1, Middle East (Bahrain)





IAM Permissions

Before launching the template, you must sign in to the AWS Management Console with IAM permissions for the resources that the template deploys. The **AdministratorAccess** managed policy within IAM provides sufficient permissions, although your organization may choose to use a custom policy with more restrictions.

Deployment Options

This template deploys into an existing VPC. The only optional parameters are:

- 1. Is the Qumulo cluster being deployed in a Local Zone?
- 2. Public IP Management
- 3. R53 Private Hosted Zone configuration

In all cases these options are configured with parameters in the template prior to launch.

Deployment Steps

Download the aws-sa-waf-cluster CloudFormation Folder

- 1. Go to https://github.com/Qumulo/aws-sa-waf-cluster and select the green Code button and then click on Download Zip.
- 2. Unzip the file on your local machine
- 3. Copy the top level folder and all contents, unmodified, to an AWS S3 bucket that your account has access to. Numerous tools exist to place this content in your S3 bucket like the AWS S3 Console, AWS CLI commands, or custom S3 browser utilities. All that is critical is that all files are copied and the directory hierarchy is maintained.

Sign in to your AWS account

- Sign in to your AWS account at https://aws.amazon.com with an IAM user role that has the necessary permissions. For details, see Planning the Deployment earlier in this document.
- 2. Make sure that your AWS account is configured correctly, as discussed in the Technical Requirements section earlier in this document.





Subscribe to the Qumulo Marketplace AMI

A subscription to the Qumulo AMI for the chosen configuration and deployment region is required.

- Go to https://aws.amazon.com/marketplace and type Qumulo in the search bar. Select one of the available offerings with a designated usable capacity. NOTE: If you have a private offer you will receive an email with a link to accept the private offer. The Customizable File Storage Node configuration in the Marketplace requires a private offer.
- 2. Scroll down to **Usage Information** and note the type and number of EBS volumes per EC2 instance. If you've chosen a Hybrid Configuration (SSD+HDD), just note the type and number of st1 or sc1 EBS volumes per EC2 instance. As an example, the 1TB usable offering has 6x100GiB gp2 EBS volumes per EC2 instance. This would be referred to as a 600GiB All Flash EBS volume configuration later in the template. Had the 12TB usable hybrid configuration been chosen, 10x500GiB st1 EBS volumes per EC2 instance would be provisioned. This would be referenced as a 5TiB Hybrid-st1 EBS volume configuration later in the template. NOTE: If you have a private offer using the Customizable File Storage Node offering your Qumulo representative will let you know the appropriate disk configuration for your offering.
- 3. Click **Continue to Subscribe** in the upper right corner. The subscription will take a couple of minutes to process.
- 4. At this point the Marketplace process is complete when using the aws-sa-waf-cluster CloudFormation template.

Launch the CloudFormation Template

- 1. Go to the **CloudFormation** view in the AWS Console
- 2. Select the AWS Region to deploy the Qumulo Cluster in from the upper-right corner of the AWS Console. NOTE: Later in the Template the AMI-ID will be required that matches the configuration for your selected region.
- 3. Duplicate the browser tab and switch to the **S3** view in the AWS Console
- 4. Navigate to the bucket you placed the aws-sa-waf-cluster folder in
- 5. Select the aws-sa-waf-cluster folder
- 6. Click on the template qcluster-existingVPC.cft.yaml
- 7. Copy the **Object URL** for the template (NOT the S3 URL)
- 8. Switch back to the CloudFormation browser tab
- 9. Click Create Stack and select With new resources
- 10. Keep the defaults and paste the template URL into the Amazon S3 URL field
- 11. Click Next





12. The template is now launched and you will see the list of parameters on the **Specify Stack Details** page

Entering Parameters in the Template

The template parameters are largely self documenting with intuitive names and detailed descriptions. However, this template does a lot of work, so some additional explanation is warranted. All sections of the template will be captured below and additional information provided for the parameters.

Stack Name Parameter

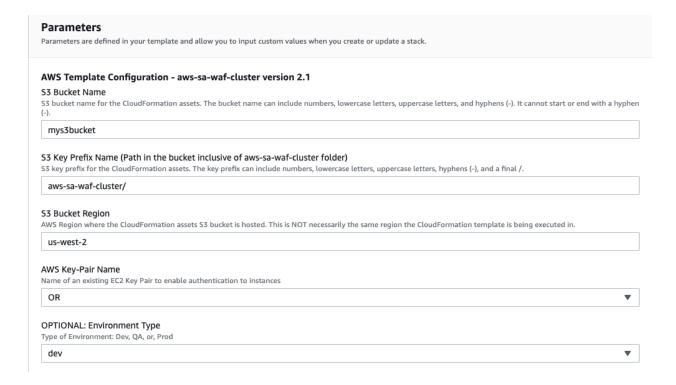


While stack names can be fairly complex, this template extensively tags resources with the stack name, nested stack name, and unique stack numbers generated by AWS. Thus, less is more for the stack name. In this example **QCluster1** will suffice.



AWS Template Configuration Parameters

This section consists of basic AWS parameters. Since this is the beginning of the parameters for the template, the aws-sa-waf-cluster template version number is also referenced here.



S3 Bucket Name

This is simply the name of the S3 Bucket the aws-sa-waf-cluster folder was placed in. Note, the account you use to provision the cluster must have access to this bucket. Also, you may be wondering why does the template need to know the bucket and prefix for this template when it was just launched with the URL? This template uses nested stacks. The top-level stack uses the bucket and prefix supplied to generate URLs for the nested stacks.

S3 Key Prefix Name

For those new to AWS, this parameter is simply the path in the bucket inclusive of the aws-sa-waf-cluster folder. It must NOT start with a "/" and it MUST end with a "/". This is the AWS S3 Key Prefix Name convention.





S3 Bucket Region

This is the region the S3 bucket is hosted in that contains the aws-sa-waf-cluster folder. In many cases this will NOT be the region the template is being executed in. S3 buckets are hosted in a region and available globally throughout AWS. To identify the region for your S3 bucket simply go to the AWS Console **S3** page, select **Buckets**, and the region will be listed just to the right of the bucket name.

AWS Key-Pair Name

This field is a dynamic drop-down populated with all the key-pairs in the account for the region. Here a simple name of OR was chosen for the Oregon (us-west-2) region. Any parameter field with an arrow on the far right is dynamically populated with options to select. Further, these fields must all be populated with a selection or the template will fail upon execution.

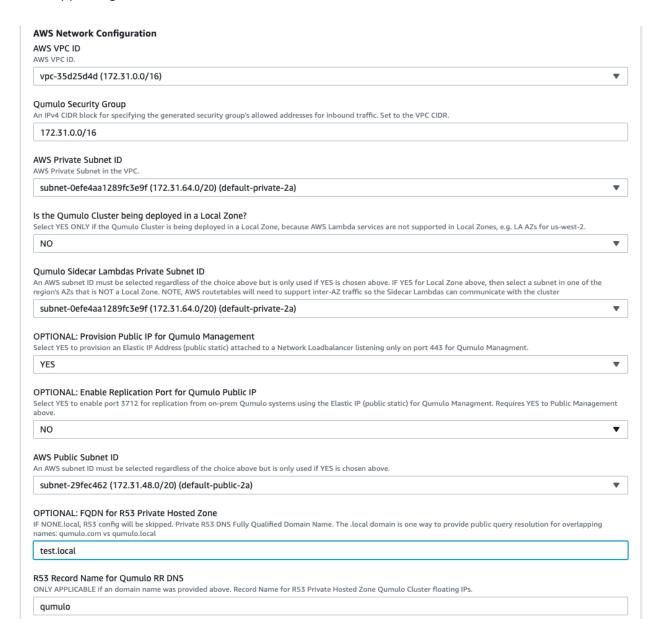
OPTIONAL: Environment Type

This field is reserved for future use. It may be changed, but has no impact.



AWS Network Configuration Parameters

The next section consists of multiple parameters to configure the networking for the cluster and supporting elements.







AWS VPC ID

This field is a dynamic drop-down populated with all the VPCs in the account for the region. Choose the VPC to deploy in.

Qumulo Security Group

The Qumulo Security Group CIDR generally should match the VPC CIDR. This allows the cluster to communicate with any subnet within the VPC.

AWS Private Subnet ID

The cluster is deployed in a private subnet within the VPC. This field is a dynamic drop-down populated with all the subnets available within the Region. Select the subnet, and hence the Availability Zone (AZ), the cluster resides in. Make sure the subnet chosen is relevant for the VPC chosen. This can sometimes be confusing if the tags don't clarify the VPC the subnet resides in.

Is The Qumulo Cluster Being Deployed in a Local Zone?

Some AZs are AWS Local Zones. These AZs often have a subset of the functionality of the parent AZs in a given AWS Region. An example is the LA Local Zone that is part of the Oregon region with four parent AZs. Since AWS Lambda functions are not yet supported in Local Zones, change this field to **YES** if your cluster is being deployed in a Local Zone.

Qumulo Sidecar Lambda Private Subnet ID

In the event the cluster is being deployed in a Local Zone, choose a subnet to deploy the AWS Lambdas in that is in a parent AZ for the AWS region. Just like any other CloudFormation dynamic drop down, an option must be chosen. In this example the same private subnet ID was selected to make the parser happy. Note, if the Sidecar Lambdas are being deployed in a different private subnet than the cluster, the AWS route tables for the VPC must be configured to provide inter-AZ connectivity.

OPTIONAL: Provision Public IP for Qumulo Management

If this option is selected, an Elastic IP (public static IP) is assigned to an AWS Network Load Balancer that is connected to the cluster and listens only on port 443. This is not recommended for production clusters with sensitive data. To minimize the attack surface area, manage the cluster from an EC2 instance within your VPC. Note, AWS Local Zones do not support NLB target groups, so this option will be ignored if deploying the cluster in a Local Zone.





OPTIONAL: Enable Replication Port for Qumulo Public IP

The replication port can be enabled on the public interface for customers that want to replicate from one Qumulo cluster to another via the public Internet. This is fine for test purposes but should not be used on production clusters. Either a VPN or AWS direct connect should be used for production replication.

AWS Public Subnet ID

This parameter must be populated, even if the public management option is left at the default of **NO**. This is a basic template requirement for the CloudFormation parser even though the field is only used for provisioning in the event public management was selected.

OPTIONAL: FQDN for R53 Private Hosted Zone

The template will optionally create a Route 53 Private Hosted Zone with equally weighted records, TTL=0, for the floating IPs on the cluster. If left at the default of **NONE.local** this option will be ignored. Here an FQDN of **test.local** was chosen since this VPC has no Active Directory server with DNS. (INSERT LINK TO SA KB on DNS IN AWS).

R53 Record Name for Qumulo RR DNS

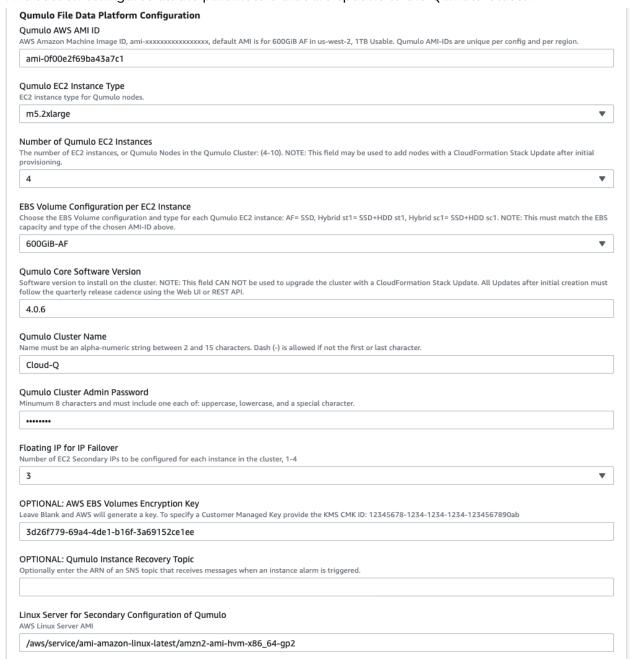
This field is the DNS A-Record name for the Route 53 records that are created. This is only relevant if an FQDN was entered above other than **NONE.local**.





Qumulo File Data Platform Configuration Parameters

This section configures all the parameters that are specific to the Qumulo Cluster.







Qumulo AWS AMI ID

The AMI ID is unique to the capacity configuration of the Qumulo node and the AWS region it is deployed in. Contact Qumulo for an AMI ID or accept the private offer emailed to you from Qumulo and we will provide the appropriate AMI ID.

Qumulo EC2 Instance Type

This field is a dynamic drop-down populated with the supported EC2 instance types. For low performance clusters an m5.2xlarge instance type may be selected. For very high performance clusters a c5n.18xlarge instance type may be used. If you don't know what instance type will support your workload contact Qumulo for recommendations.

Number of Qumulo EC2 Instances

This is another dynamic drop-down providing options from 4 to 10 instances. Capacity and performance scale with instance count. Most cloud based workloads can be facilitated with 10 or less nodes. If you need more than 10 nodes contact Qumulo. Note, this field can be used to increase the node count in a subsequent Stack Update.

EBS Volume Configuration per EC2 Instance

This is the disk configuration per EC2 Instance. All supported Qumulo disk configurations are available in this dynamic drop-down. However, only the disk configuration relevant for the AMI ID can be used. Recall in the Marketplace Subscription acceptance the type and number of EBS volumes was noted so you can easily select the correct configuration here. For private offers Qumulo will provide the disk configuration.

Qumulo Core Software Version

Qumulo releases AWS AMI IDs quarterly. Any AMI ID referenced above will have a specific version based on the quarter the subscription was accepted. As of the date of this document Qumulo Core 4.0.6 is the latest version. As Qumulo software continues to evolve you may enter any newer software version than that of the AMI ID when provisioning new clusters. The template will update all nodes to the desired software version before forming the first quorum for the cluster. Note, this field can't be used in a Stack Update to change the software version. Nor can it be used to install a version of software that is older than the version the AMI ID shipped with. For post deployment software upgrades refer to Qumulo KB Qumulo Core Upgrades via UI.

Qumulo Cluster Name

This parameter is simply the name given to the cluster.





Qumulo Cluster Admin Password

This parameter is the Admin Password assigned to the cluster. This password is also stored in AWS Secrets Manager for subsequent reference.

Floating IP for IP Failover

EC2 Instances running Qumulo Core support EC2 Secondary IP configuration. Within the Qumulo cluster these are referred to as Floating IPs. The cluster takes over ownership and management of these IPs to protect client connections in the event of an EC2 instance failure. By default three floating IPs per instance are recommended. Should any instance fail its load will be distributed to three adjacent instances in the cluster. Options for 1-4 floating IPs per instance are available. These IP addresses are configured in a Route 53 Private Hosted Zone if that option was selected in the previous section of the template. Otherwise, A-records must be set up in the chosen DNS server.

OPTIONAL: AWS EBS Volumes Encryption Key

All data at rest is encrypted. IF this field is left blank an AWS generated key is used. You may optionally specify a Customer Managed Key that has been setup in the AWS Key Management System as shown in the above example. Note, the Key Management System CMK policy for the key must not contain any leftover SIDs from previous provisioning. Assuming there are no other legitimate SIDs in the policy, a clean CMK policy should follow the following JSON structure below.





KMS > Customer managed keys > 3d26f779-69a4-4de1-b16f-3a69152ce1ee > Edit policy Edit key policy **Key policy** 1 { "Id": "key-consolepolicy-3", 2 "Version": "2012-10-17", 3 "Statement": [4 5 { "Sid": "Enable IAM User Permissions", 6 "Effect": "Allow", 7 "Principal": { 8 "AWS": "arn:aws:iam::879904047471:root" 9 }, 10 11 "Action": "kms:*", "Resource": "*" 12 13 } 14] 15 }

OPTIONAL: Qumulo Instance Recovery Topic

In the event of an EC2 Instance failure, Amazon Simple Notification Service (SNS) text or email messages will be sent via the configured SNS topic. Paste in your SNS topic ARN here.

Linux Server for Secondary Configuration of Qumulo

This parameter must be left as is. CloudFormation templates are able to parse this path to find the latest AWS Linux AMI ID for the provisioner node.





Qumulo CloudWatch Metrics & Monitoring Configuration Parameters
This section configures the Qumulo Sidecar.

SideCarUser	
Qumulo Sidecar Password	
Minumum 8 characters and must	st include one each of: uppercase, lowercase, and a special character.
Qumulo Sidecar Software V	/ersion
Qumulo Sidecar Software V	the desired cluster version at creation. NOTE: This field may be used to upgrade the SideCar software version with a CloudFormation Stack
Qumulo Sidecar Software Vo	the desired cluster version at creation. NOTE: This field may be used to upgrade the SideCar software version with a CloudFormation Stack
Qumulo Sidecar Software V Software Version should match t Update after upgrading the clust	the desired cluster version at creation. NOTE: This field may be used to upgrade the SideCar software version with a CloudFormation Stack ster via the Web UI or REST API.

Qumulo Sidecar Username

A username is configured on the cluster for Sidecar Lambda access. You may change this username if desired.

Qumulo Sidecar Password

Likewise, a password is created for the Sidecar username. Keep the default unless you want to change it. Regardless, these credentials are stored in Secrets Manager for subsequent reference.

Qumulo Sidecar Software Version

The Sidecar software version should match the cluster software version previously specified. Note, this field may be used with a Stack Update to install a newer version of the Sidecar Lambda software. This is especially helpful for production clusters that are upgraded post deployment via the Qumulo UI or API, so the Sidecar software version is synchronized with the cluster software version.

OPTIONAL: Qumulo Sidecar SNS Topic

In the event of an EBS Volume failure, Amazon Simple Notification Service (SNS) text or email messages will be sent via the configured SNS topic. Paste in your SNS topic ARN here.





Deploy the CloudFormation Stack

- 1. After completing all parameter entries choose **Next**.
- 2. On the **Configure stack options** page you can specify additional tags. When finished choose **Next**.
- 3. On the **Review** page confirm the template settings. Under **Capabilities**, at the bottom of the page, select the two check boxes to acknowledge that the template may create IAM resources and may require the ability to automatically expand macros. **The template will fail if these check boxes are left unchecked.**
- 4. Choose **Create stack** to deploy the stack.

CloudFormation Nested Stack Deployment

The stack will take 15 to 20 minutes to deploy depending on the options chosen in the template. You can monitor the progress of the stack by choosing **Events** on the top-level stack named **QCluster1** in this example. Below is a description of each nested stack's function in the order they are deployed.

SECRETSSTACK Nested Stack

The first two stacks are launched in parallel. The SECRETS Stack stores usernames and passwords in Secrets Manager for the cluster, sidecar, and downloading software from Qumulo Trends. The purpose of leveraging Secrets Manager is to provide a secure reference for subsequent stacks and users who may forget the passwords assigned.

QIAMSTACK Nested Stack

The QIAM Stack creates an IAM profile for the Qumulo Cluster to enable the cluster to manage EC2 Secondary IP addresses (Floating IPs). Note, creating IAM roles in AWS takes some time so don't be alarmed if the QIAM stack takes 3 or 4 minutes.

QSTACK Nested Stack

The Q Stack spins up all the EC2 instances and EBS volumes for the cluster. It also creates a placement group for the cluster and tags all the EC2 instances with the appropriate stack name and node number. In addition, it creates CloudWatch alarms for EC2 instance failure and a security group for the cluster with the CIDR specified in the template.





MGMTNLBSTACK Nested Stack

If public management of the cluster was chosen in the template this nested stack is executed as long as the cluster is NOT being deployed in an AWS Local Zone. It spins up a Network Load Balancer with a public Elastic IP. The load balancer listens only on port 443 and optionally on port 3712 if the replication port was selected. This load balancer connects to the primary EC2 IP address on each node. These are known as the persistent IPs in the Qumulo UI.

QSIDECARSTACK Nested Stack

The SIDECAR stack launches in parallel with the MGMTNLB Stack. It creates two Lambda functions with the specified Sidecar software version. The first is the Metrics Lambda that sends Qumulo metrics to CloudWatch. The second is the Disk Recovery Lambda that monitors EBS volumes and automatically replaces any failed EBS volumes. IAM roles, permissions, and events are created for each Lambda function.

PROVISIONINGSTACK Nested Stack

This stack spins up an EC2 instance with custom user data. It configures the Qumulo Cluster and some AWS environment requirements.

Qumulo Configuration

- Software upgrades of QSTACK created nodes
- Forms the first quorum for the cluster
- Assigns Floating IP addresses to the cluster
- Configures Sidecar username, password, and custom RBAC role
- Changes the admin password

AWS Configuration

- Assigns a QSTACK Policy to protect the cluster in subsequent Stack Updates
- Edits the Customer Managed Key Policy so Sidecar can create CMK encrypted volumes
- Tags EBS volumes with the stack name and volume type
- Tracks software versions, cluster IPs, instance IDs, & UUID in AWS Parameter Store
- Tracks the provisioning instance 'last-run-status' in Parameter Store

This instance automatically shuts down upon completion of its provisioning tasks.





DNSSTACK Nested Stack

The final two stacks launch in parallel. If the Route 53 Private Hosted Zone FQDN was configured then the DNS stack is executed. It creates the private hosted zone and all the A-records with the name assigned in the template. All records are given a TTL=0. While round-robin behavior is the goal, Route 53 doesn't provide perfect round-robin. Instead the records are given an equal probability of resolution. Clients are well distributed, but not perfectly symmetric.

CLOUDWATCHSTACK Nested Stack

This stack creates resource groups for the cluster. First, it creates a resource group for the EC2 instances and then it creates one or more resource groups for the EBS volumes. The resource groups created for the EBS volumes depend on the EBS volume configuration of the cluster. All Flash clusters will have just one resource group with the stack name and -SSD. Hybrid clusters will have two resource groups for EBS: one with -SSD and one with -HDD. The purpose of these resource groups is to provide a simple means to create a filtered view in CloudWatch.

Below is the event view for the top-level **QCluster1** stack. Note the timestamps to manage expectations on the duration for each nested stack.





Timestamp	•	Logical ID	Status
2021-05-17 18:00:18 UTC-0700		QCluster1	○ CREATE_COMPLETE
2021-05-17 18:00:16 UTC-0700		DNSSTACK	○ CREATE_COMPLETE
2021-05-17 17:57:23 UTC-0700		CLOUDWATCHSTACK	○ CREATE_COMPLETE
2021-05-17 17:57:12 UTC-0700		CLOUDWATCHSTACK	3 CREATE_IN_PROGRESS
2021-05-17 17:57:12 UTC-0700		DNSSTACK	3 CREATE_IN_PROGRESS
2021-05-17 17:57:12 UTC-0700		CLOUDWATCHSTACK	3 CREATE_IN_PROGRESS
2021-05-17 17:57:12 UTC-0700		DNSSTACK	3 CREATE_IN_PROGRESS
2021-05-17 17:57:08 UTC-0700		PROVISIONINGSTACK	○ CREATE_COMPLETE
2021-05-17 17:54:04 UTC-0700		PROVISIONINGSTACK	③ CREATE_IN_PROGRESS
2021-05-17 17:54:03 UTC-0700		PROVISIONINGSTACK	3 CREATE_IN_PROGRESS
2021-05-17 17:53:59 UTC-0700		QSIDECARSTACK	○ CREATE_COMPLETE
2021-05-17 17:53:59 UTC-0700		MGMTNLBSTACK	○ CREATE_COMPLETE
2021-05-17 17:48:45 UTC-0700		QSIDECARSTACK	3 CREATE_IN_PROGRESS
2021-05-17 17:48:44 UTC-0700		MGMTNLBSTACK	3 CREATE_IN_PROGRESS
2021-05-17 17:48:43 UTC-0700		MGMTNLBSTACK	© CREATE_IN_PROGRESS
2021-05-17 17:48:43 UTC-0700		QSIDECARSTACK	3 CREATE_IN_PROGRESS
2021-05-17 17:48:40 UTC-0700		QSTACK	○ CREATE_COMPLETE
2021-05-17 17:47:39 UTC-0700		QSTACK	3 CREATE_IN_PROGRESS
2021-05-17 17:47:37 UTC-0700		QSTACK	3 CREATE_IN_PROGRESS
2021-05-17 17:47:34 UTC-0700		QIAMSTACK	○ CREATE_COMPLETE
2021-05-17 17:45:07 UTC-0700		SECRETSSTACK	○ CREATE_COMPLETE
2021-05-17 17:44:56 UTC-0700		QIAMSTACK	③ CREATE_IN_PROGRESS
2021-05-17 17:44:56 UTC-0700		SECRETSSTACK	③ CREATE_IN_PROGRESS
2021-05-17 17:44:55 UTC-0700		QIAMSTACK	③ CREATE_IN_PROGRESS
2021-05-17 17:44:55 UTC-0700		SECRETSSTACK	3 CREATE_IN_PROGRESS
2021-05-17 17:44:50 UTC-0700		QCluster1	CREATE_IN_PROGRESS





Post Deployment Steps

Once the top-level stack event log shows **CREATE_COMPLETE**, CloudFormation has completed instantiation of all stack resources. Below are the steps to validate the deployment.

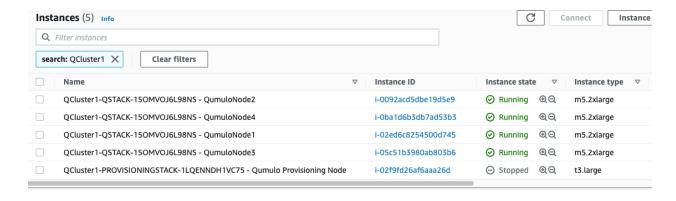
Review & Verify the AWS Infrastructure

Verify the Cluster Instances are Running

In the AWS EC2 Console filter on the stack name, clear the running instance filter, and verify the number of instances for the cluster is as expected. Four in this example.

Verify the Provisioning Instance has Stopped

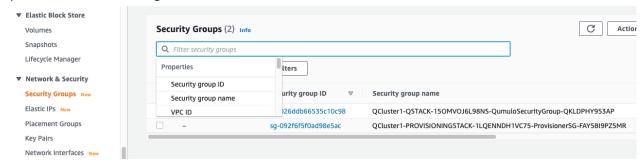
CloudFormation has completed the instantiation of all resources, but this does not mean all resources are fully initialized and running. Specifically, the Provisioning instance will still be initializing. Given all the tasks the Provisioning instance has to accomplish it will require 6 to 10 minutes AFTER stack completion to finish all tasks. This variability is due to software upgrades of the instances. If it has to pull code and position it on S3 that takes some time as does the software upgrade. When it is finished it will automatically shutdown. If the provisioning instance has not stopped after 15 minutes, jump to the troubleshooting section.





Verify the EC2 Security Groups

In the AWS Console go to the EC2 **Security Groups** page and filter on the top-level stack name. There will be two Security Groups that have been created. Select either to inspect the ports and CIDRs configured.



Verify the EC2 Placement Group for the Cluster

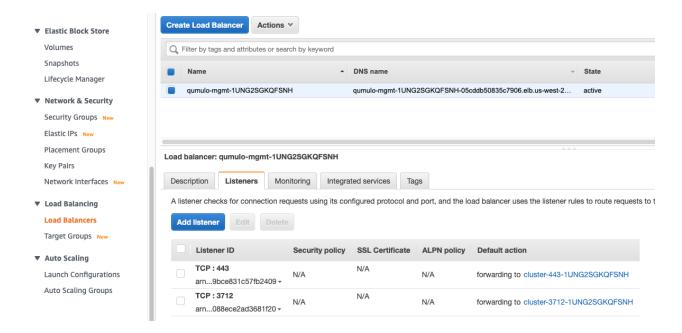
In the AWS Console go to **Placement Groups**. A placement group with the stack name has been created.





Verify the Load Balancer for Public Management (Optional)

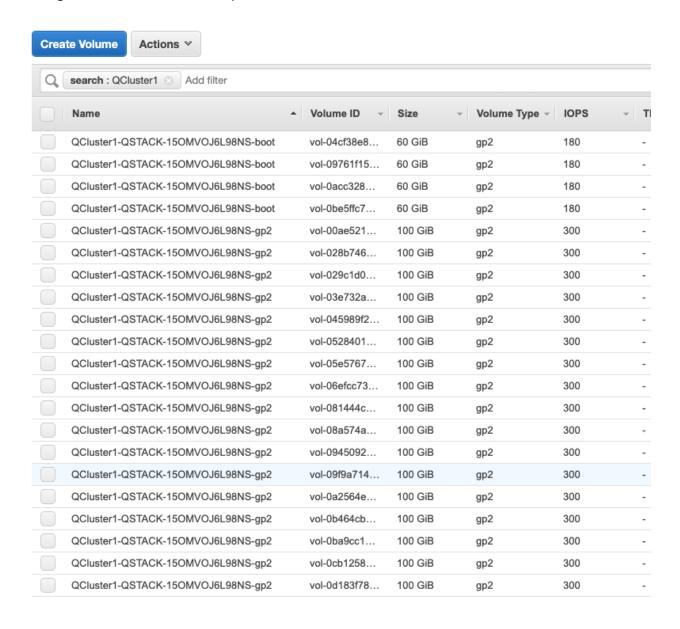
In the AWS Console go to **Load Balancers**. If Public Management was selected in the template a load balancer has been created. It will be listening on 443, and if selected in the template, 3712 for replication.





Verify EBS Volume Tags

If the Provisioning instance has stopped the EBS volumes will be tagged accordingly for the cluster and EBS volume configuration. Go to the AWS Console **Elastic Block Store Volumes** page to verify. The type and number of EBS volumes will vary depending on EBS volume configuration chosen in the template and the number of EC2 instances.





Verify EBS Encryption with a CMK (Optional)

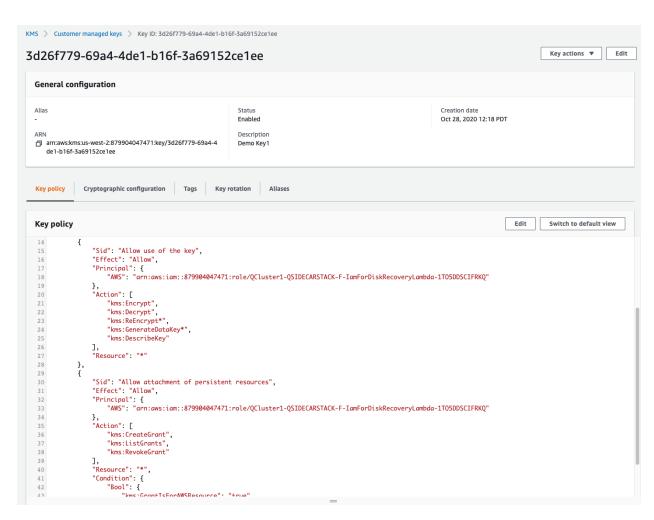
On the same page scroll to the right to verify that the volumes are encrypted with the Customer Managed Key assigned in the template. This is only relevant if a CMK was specified. If the field was left blank in the template, AWS will generate a key to encrypt the data at rest.

Volume Status 🔻	Encryption -	KMS Key ID
Okay	Encrypted	3d26f779-69a4-4de1-b16f-3a69152ce1ee



Verify the KMS CMK Policy (Optional)

In the AWS Console go to the **Key Management Service** page and select the CMK that was chosen in the template. Verify that the policy has been updated with two SIDs, one for the Metrics Lambda and one for the Disk Recovery Lambda. If the policy is not updated it is likely the Provisioning node will not have shutdown because the policy was not cleaned up prior to launching the template. Without this policy modification in place the Sidecar will not be able to create a new EBS volume to replace a failed EBS volume.

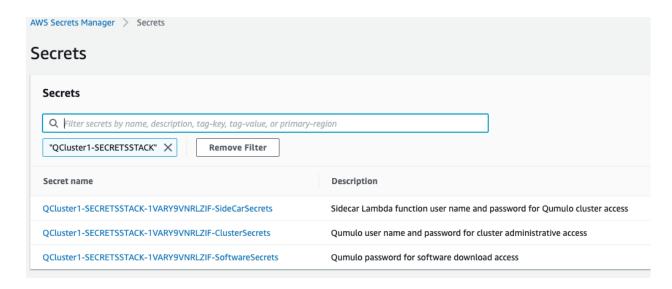






Verify Secrets Manager Secrets

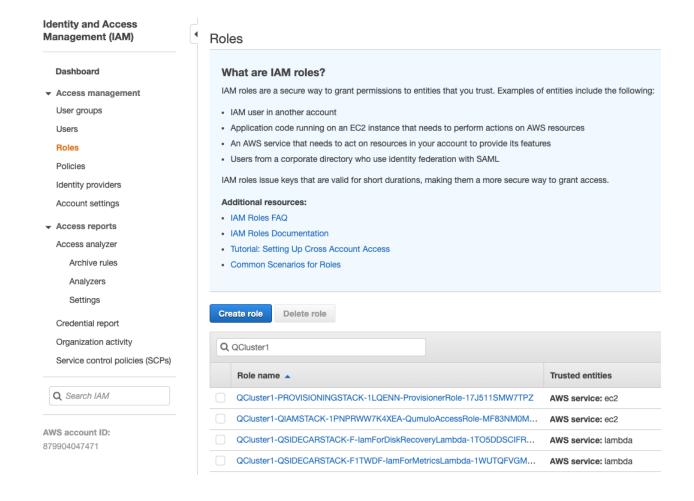
In the AWS Console go to the **Secrets Manager** page and filter on the top-level stack name. There will be three secrets that have been created to store username/password pairs. Select any of them to see the credentials.





Verify the IAM Roles

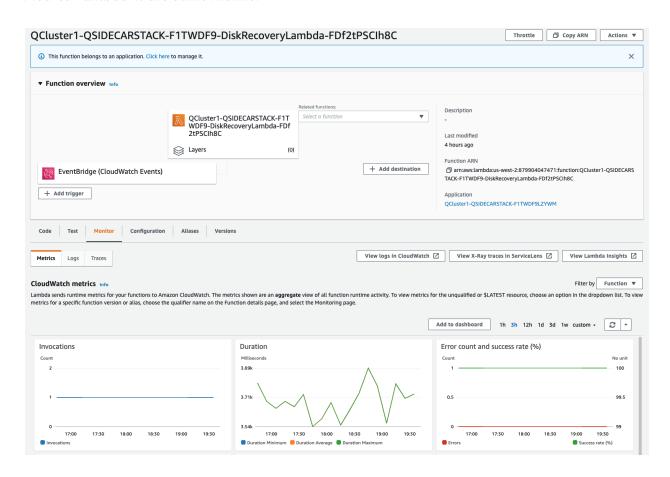
In the AWS Console go to the IAM page and filter on the top-level stack name. There will be four IAM roles that have been created: two for the Sidecar, one for the cluster, and one for the provisioning instance.





Verify Sidecar Lambdas

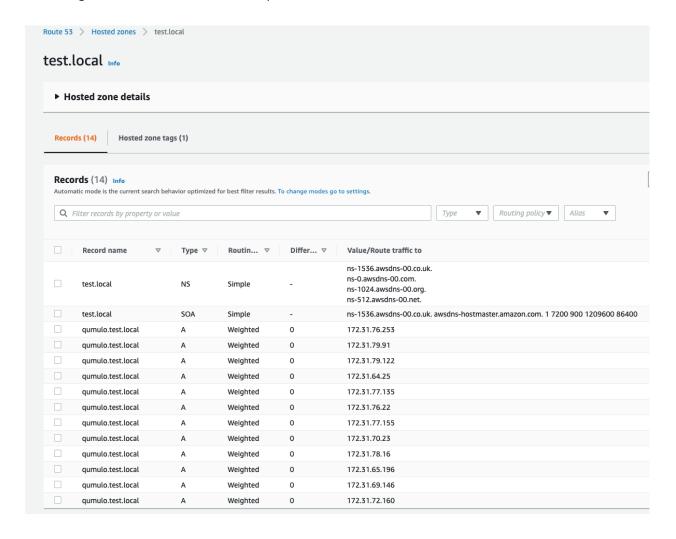
In the AWS Console go to the **Lambda** page and filter on the top-level stack name. There will be two Lambda functions. Select the **Disk Recovery Lambda** and then choose **Monitor**. In the populated graphs check that the Error Count and Success Rate shows 100% green and 0% red. This confirms the Disk Recovery Lambda is communicating with the cluster. Review the Metrics Lambda in the same manner.





Verify Route 53 Private Hosted Zone for DNS (Optional)

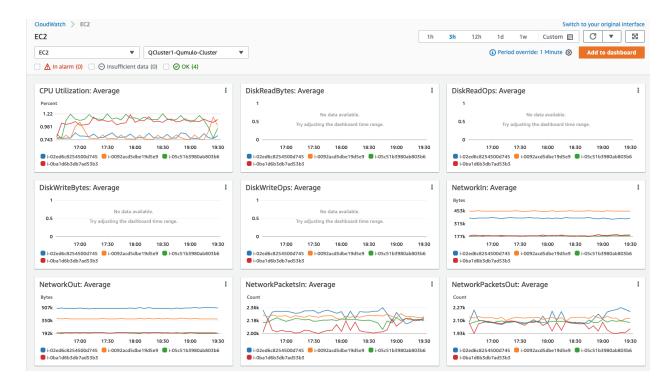
In the AWS Console go to **Route 53**. Select the Private Hosted Zone that was created. In this case it is **test.local**. Verify the A-records were created with the A-record name specified in the template. This is only relevant if an FQDN was specified, otherwise Route 53 configuration is skipped. Note, 12 A-records were created, one for each floating IP, since 4 EC2 instances with 3 floating IPs were chosen in the template.





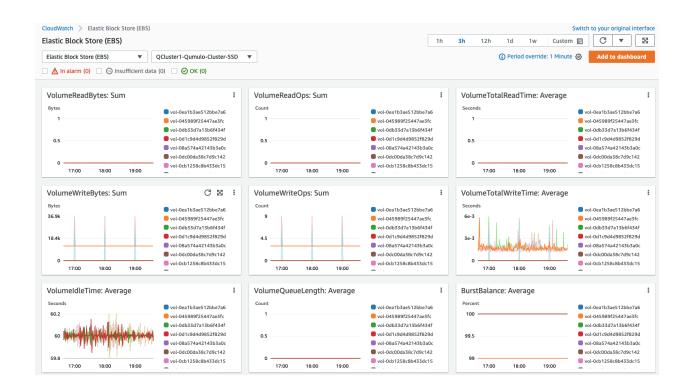
Verify Resource Groups

In the AWS Console go to **CloudWatch**. In the first filter box choose **EC2** and then in the **Filter by resource group box** select the cluster with the top-level stack name. This provides a CloudWatch filtered view of the EC2 instances for the cluster. CPU Utilization, network stats, boot volume stats, and alarm events are available.



Now clear the **Filter by resource group field** and select **EBS** in the first filter box. Now in the **Filter by resource group field** choose the cluster top-levelstack name with either **-SSD** or **-HDD** appended. This is a CloudWatch view of the EBS volumes for the cluster. Note, boot volumes are not included in this view.





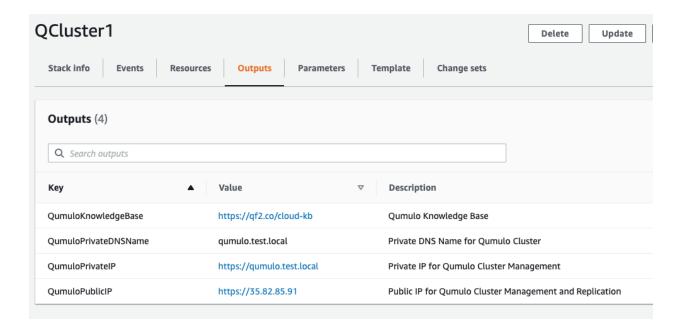




Review & Verify the Qumulo Cluster Configuration

Review the Outputs of the CloudFormation Stack

Go to the **CloudFormation** page and select the top-level stack name, **Qcluster1**. Choose **Outputs**. If Route 53 was configured a URL to the private addresses, resolved by Route 53, will be shown. If Route 53 was skipped, a URL to the first node's primary IP address will be displayed. Likewise, if Public Management was chosen a URL to the Elastic IP (public static) address will be shown. If connecting via the public Internet, open a page from your local machine using the **QumuloPublicIP** URL. If connecting from within your VPC, paste the **QumuloPrivateIP** URL into the browser of an EC2 instance running Chrome.





Verify Admin Password

The login page should authenticate with the credentials:

Username: admin

Password: 'your chosen Admin password'

If you've forgotten the admin password entered in the template go to Secrets Manager and

retrieve it.

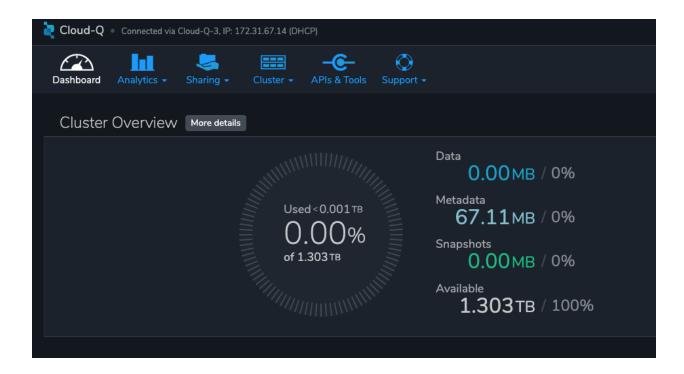






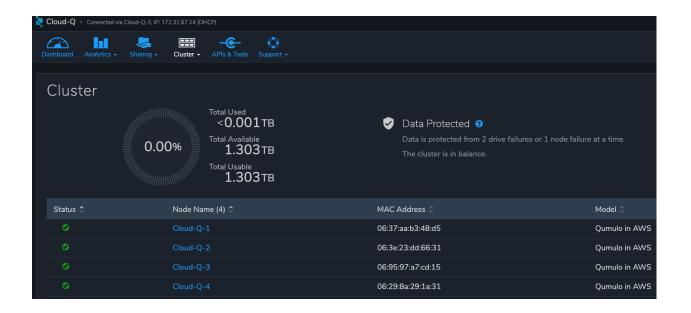
Verify Quorum and Protection

After logging in, the cluster dashboard should be displayed. IF it isn't the cluster failed to form quorum. Jump to troubleshooting.



Choose **More details**. The number of nodes in the cluster should match what was provisioned in the template. Further, to the right is the protection status showing protection for 1 node failure or 2 disk failures.





Verify Software Version

In the top right of the Qumulo UI the software version is displayed. This should match the software version requested when the template was filled in. Here it shows Qumulo Core version 4.0.6 as expected.

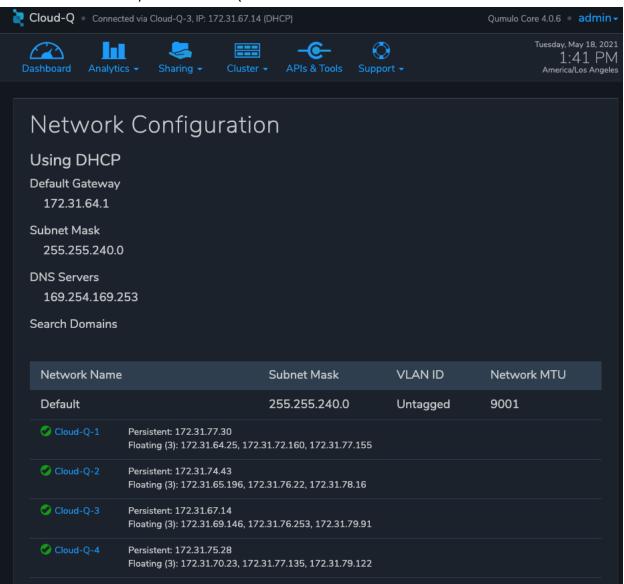






Verify Floating IPs

Go to the **Cluster** tab and select **Network Configuration**. Each node will have a persistent IP. This is the EC2 primary IP address that is provided via DHCP at creation and subsequently never changes unless the instance is destroyed (i.e. terminated). Also, each node will have floating IPs associated with it. In this case the default of 3 floating IPs per instance was chosen. These IPs are EC2 secondary IPs that the cluster now manages as floating IPs. The AWS EC2 console will only display what EC2 secondary IPs were assigned to an instance at creation. For real-time status always refer to the Qumulo UI.





Verify Sidecar User and Custom RBAC Configuration

Previously the Sidecar Lambda function connectivity to the cluster was verified. There's no need to review the Sidecar User and RBAC configuration. If you desire to review these they are under **Cluster** -> **Local Users & Groups** and **Cluster** -> **Role Management**, respectively.





Stack Update Options

Adding Node(s) to the Cluster

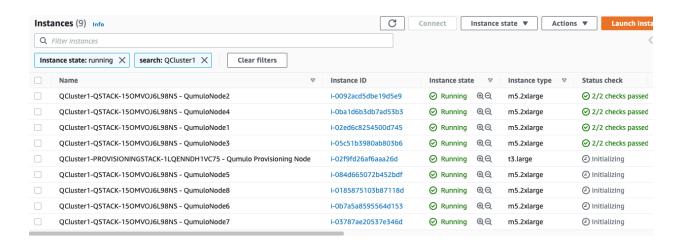
A Qumulo cluster may be grown in both capacity and performance by adding additional nodes (EC2 instances) to the cluster. Each node added increases compute, networking, and storage capacity. To add nodes to a cluster follow the procedure below. Note, total instance count may only be increased, not decreased. If total instance count is decreased the stack update will fail and rollback.

IF you have upgraded the software on the cluster after initial deployment leave the software version for the cluster in the template as it was originally provisioned. The stack is unaware of this update and the software version field for the cluster can not be used for upgrades after initial deployment.

- 1. Go to the **CloudFormation** view in the AWS Console
- 2. Select the top-level stack name, **QCluster1** in this example
- 3. Select **Update** in the upper right corner
- 4. Keep the default **Use Current Template**
- 5. Select **Next**
- 6. The template as last populated will be displayed
- 7. Scroll down to the **Number of Qumulo EC2 Instances**
- 8. Increase the number of instances to the chosen value, 8 in this example
- 9. Select **Next**
- 10. Select **Next** again
- 11. **Check both boxes** acknowledging that CloudFormation may create IAM roles and that it may leverage CAPABILITY_AUTO_EXPAND.
- 12. Select **Update stack**

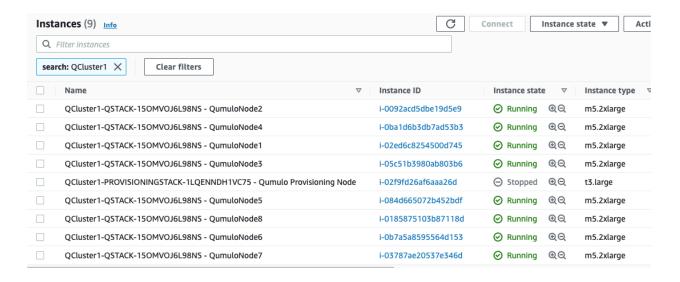
The stack will commence updating. In this case four nodes will be added to the cluster. This is not service impacting as the existing nodes are left untouched. There is a brief quorum bounce to add the four new nodes to the cluster. Below is a view of the AWS EC2 Console showing the new instances initializing.

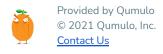




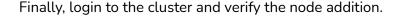
Notice that the Provisioning instance is also being restarted. This is by design. The Provisioner will query the latest version of software running on the cluster and upgrade all new nodes to this version of software before joining them to the cluster. Further, it tags all the new EBS volumes and updates the floating IPs.

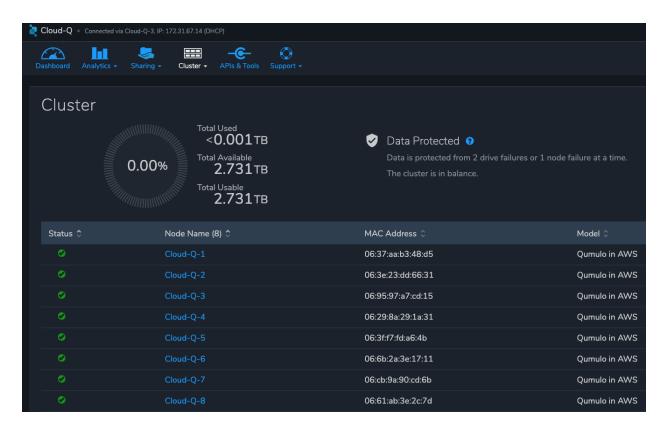
This stack provisioned Public Management and Route 53 originally. With the addition of new nodes, IP addresses need to be added to the Load Balancer and the Route 53 Private Hosted Zone. The stack will automate these updates as well. You may review any nested stack to see what resources were modified or added in the stack **Events** tab. At the completion of node addition you may review any and all of the AWS infrastructure referencing the former section. As a final check make sure the Provisioning node shutdown which indicates success of all secondary provisioning.











Updating the Sidecar Software Version

A stack update may be used to update the Sidecar software version. Follow the same steps as a Node Addition, but change the Sidecar Software Version field to the desired version instead of changing the number of EC2 instances (steps 7 & 8 above). This is typically done after updating the cluster software via the Qumulo UI.

Removing or Adding Public Management

A stack update may be used to remove or add public management. Since this update is completely separate from the cluster there's no changes required to the cluster infrastructure or infrastructure touched by the Provisioning instance. Hence, it will not restart. Note, the MGMTNLBSTACK will be deleted when removing public management. This is expected. The stack will show as DELETE_FAILED for a period of time while CloudFormation retries the delete of the Elastic IP. Ultimately it will succeed.





Other Stack Updates and the QSTACK Policy

The only restrictions placed on stack updates are for the Qumulo cluster. Specifically this is the QSTACK. The stack policy is applied by the Provisioning instance, and it forbids any modifications, deletions, or recreations of QSTACK EC2 and EBS infrastructure. This is to protect production environments from erroneous stack updates. In the event a stack update is attempted for an unsupported change the update will simply fail and rollback without harm. Many stack updates are possible and not all permutations have been tested. It is possible to change the R53 FQDN, but AWS requires the deletion of the current Private Hosted Zone and a new one rebuilt. In the stack update pages you can review the changes the update will make. The common examples are documented above that are most productive and well tested.

Changing Instance Types and EBS Volume Types

Qumulo does not support changing the cluster instance types with a stack update. This is prevented with the aforementioned stack policy. While it would be possible if allowed, it would stop all the instances, change the instance type, and restart them. This would be service impacting in a production environment. Instead Qumulo recommends shutting down an instance at a time so the cluster can leverage floating IPs and maintain the production workload.

Due to the permutations of EBS volume configurations the likelihood of user error is high attempting to change EBS volume types with a stack update. Rather than risk data loss this is blocked by the QSTACK policy.

For both instance type changes and EBS volume type changes Qumulo offers simple scripts that are production friendly.





Protecting Production Environments

In production deployments it is wise to enable Termination Protection for the entire stack. Multiple prompts are required to delete any infrastructure with Termination Protection enabled. To enable termination protection:

- 1. Go to the **CloudFormation** view in the AWS Console
- 2. Select the top-level stack name, **QCluster1** in this example
- 3. Select **Stack actions** in the upper right corner
- 4. Then select Edit termination protection
- 5. Select Enabled
- 6. Select Save

Deleting the Stack

When a cluster is no longer needed ensure all critical data has been removed from the cluster. Qumulo's SHIFT functionality may be used to natively copy data from the cluster to S3. Alternatively, Qumulo supports S3 Snapshots but rehydration will require a cluster with the same EBS volume configuration. Once the data has been archived with the chosen method simply select the **top-level stack** in CloudFormation and choose **Delete**. All resources will be deleted. Note, disable Termination Protection before deleting the stack if it was enabled.

If a Customer Managed Key was used for encryption at rest, the KMS CMK policy must be cleaned up. It's simplest to do this after the stack is completely deleted. AWS CloudFormation does not support CMK policy modifications so it is unable to track these changes that the Provisioning instance applied. Go to the AWS Key Management Service and select the CMK that was used. Then Edit the policy. Delete the two SIDs for the Sidecar and select Save. If the key policy had no other SIDs applied to it, aside from the Qumulo Sidecar SIDs, it will have the following JSON structure before and after being cleaned up.



After Stack Deletion but before Cleanup

```
Key policy
              {
  14
  15
                  "Sid": "Allow use of the key",
                  "Effect": "Allow",
  16
                  "Principal": {
  17
                      "AWS": "AROA4ZXS6IFX6B4SWQZI5"
18
  19
                  },
                  "Action": [
  20
                      "kms:Encrypt",
  21
                      "kms:Decrypt",
  22
                      "kms:ReEncrypt*",
  23
                      "kms:GenerateDataKey*",
  24
                      "kms:DescribeKey"
  25
                  ],
  26
                  "Resource": "*"
  27
  28
             },
  29
                  "Sid": "Allow attachment of persistent resources",
  30
                  "Effect": "Allow",
  31
                  "Principal": {
  32
                      "AWS": "AROA4ZXS6IFX6B4SWQZI5"
33
  34
                  "Action": [
  35
                      "kms:CreateGrant",
  36
                      "kms:ListGrants",
  37
                      "kms:RevokeGrant"
  38
                  ],
  39
                  "Resource": "*",
  40
                  "Condition": {
  41
                      "Bool": {
  42
                          "kms:GrantIsForAWSResource": "true"
  43
                      }
  44
```





After Cleanup

```
KMS > Customer managed keys > 3d26f779-69a4-4de1-b16f-3a69152ce1ee > Edit policy
Edit key policy
  Key policy
    1 {
          "Id": "key-consolepolicy-3",
    2
          "Version": "2012-10-17",
    3
          "Statement": [
    4
              {
    5
                  "Sid": "Enable IAM User Permissions",
    6
                  "Effect": "Allow",
    7
                  "Principal": {
    8
                      "AWS": "arn:aws:iam::879904047471:root"
    9
   10
                  "Action": "kms:*",
   11
                  "Resource": "*"
   12
              }
   13
   14
          ]
   15 }
```

As of the date of this document AWS CloudFormation will fail to delete all of the MGMTNLB stack resources (If Public Management was provisioned). Simply let the deletion finish, reselect the MGMTNLB stack and delete it again, and then delete the top-level stack.

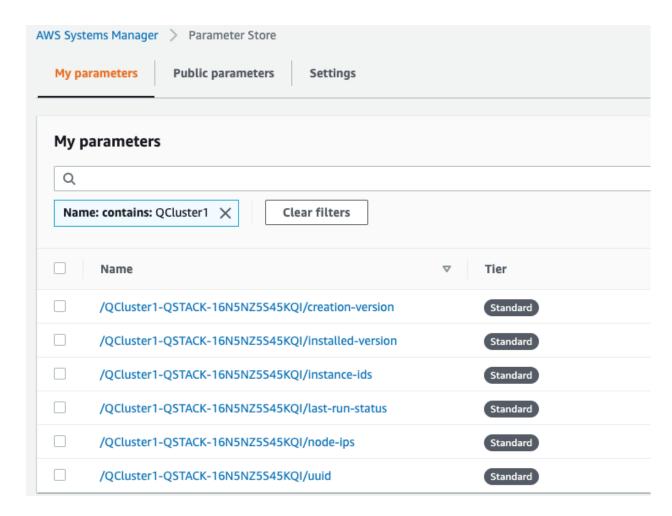




Troubleshooting

Where's the UUID for the cluster?

The Provisioning instance grabs a copy of the UUID for the cluster after the first quorum is formed. Go to **Parameter Store** and filter on the top-level stack name. The following parameters are stored by the Provisioning instance. The UUID is last on the list. Select it to view the UUID.



The Stack failed on the first nested stack, SECRETSSTACK

The S3 Bucket, Key Name Prefix, or Object URL are not correct. Delete the stack and relaunch the template with the correct S3 parameters. Do NOT use the S3 URL. The stack will fail.





The Stack failed when provisioning the QSTACK

The four most common causes for this are:

- 1. An AWS Marketplace offer has not been accepted for the AMI ID that was chosen
- 2. The EBS volumes configuration doesn't match the AMI ID
- 3. The cluster failed to place in the placement group

Review the AMI ID and marketplace subscriptions. Double check the EBS volume config selected in the template. If the cluster failed to place, choose a different AZ to deploy the cluster in to find more available resources by selecting a different private subnet ID within the VPC. Delete the failed stack and relaunch the template after rectifying the problem.

The Stack Update failed and rolled back

No harm is done. No Qumulo Cluster parameters for the QSTACK, except the Number of EC2 Instances, can be changed. The number of instances can't be decreased.

The Cluster didn't form quorum

The four most common causes for this are:

- 1. The software version specified in the template doesn't exist
- 2. The software version specified in the template is older than the AMI software version
- 3. The S3 Bucket Region specified is incorrect
- 4. The VPC doesn't have public internet access, see **The Provisioning instance didn't** shutdown

Check for typos by reviewing the parameters entered in the template in the CloudFormation console. Review what version of Qumulo Core the AMI ID shipped with. This can be found in the Parameter Store under the top-level stack name/creation-version. This can also be found in the marketplace subscription. If an older version is needed use an older AMI ID. Finally, double check the S3 Bucket Region entered in the template.





The Provisioning instance didn't shutdown

Common Causes

The two most common causes for this are:

- 1. The VPC doesn't have access to the public Internet or DNS resolution is not functioning. Without access to public infrastructure the Provisioning instance can't talk to AWS services like Secrets Manager, KMS, Parameter Store, or download the desired version of Qumulo Core software. Review the public and private subnets, their route tables, and the NAT Gateway. Review the AWS Parameter Store last-run-status to verify public internet connectivity (see the section below on last-run-status). Also double check that there are no Network ACLs blocking traffic.
- 2. A Customer Managed Key was provisioned and the policy was unable to be modified for the CMK because the policy didn't have valid SIDs before the template was launched.

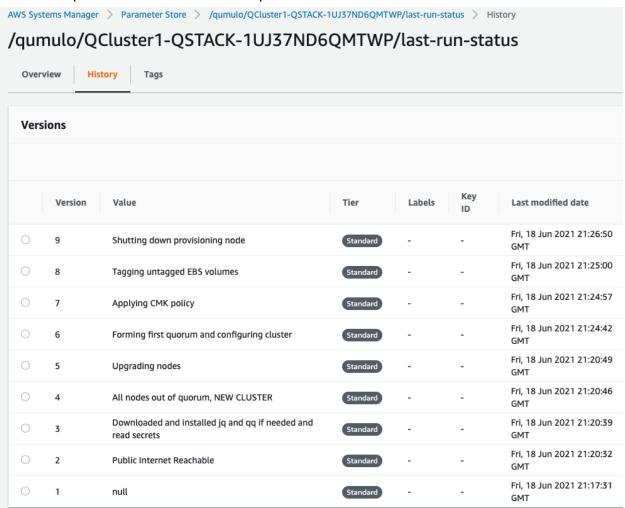
Cleanup the CMK, correct the VPC infrastructure, delete the failed stack, and relaunch the template. See the section below 'Provisioning Instance Logic Diagram' for further troubleshooting details on the provisioning instance.





AWS Parameter Store last-run-status

If the Provisioning instance doesn't automatically shutdown, the AWS Systems Manager Parameter Store **last-run-status** parameter may be checked to see where it stopped. As shown below, the parameter history shows the major blocks in the code the provisioning instance executes. In this example QCluster1 was built for the first time as noted by the NEW CLUSTER update to the last-run-status parameter.

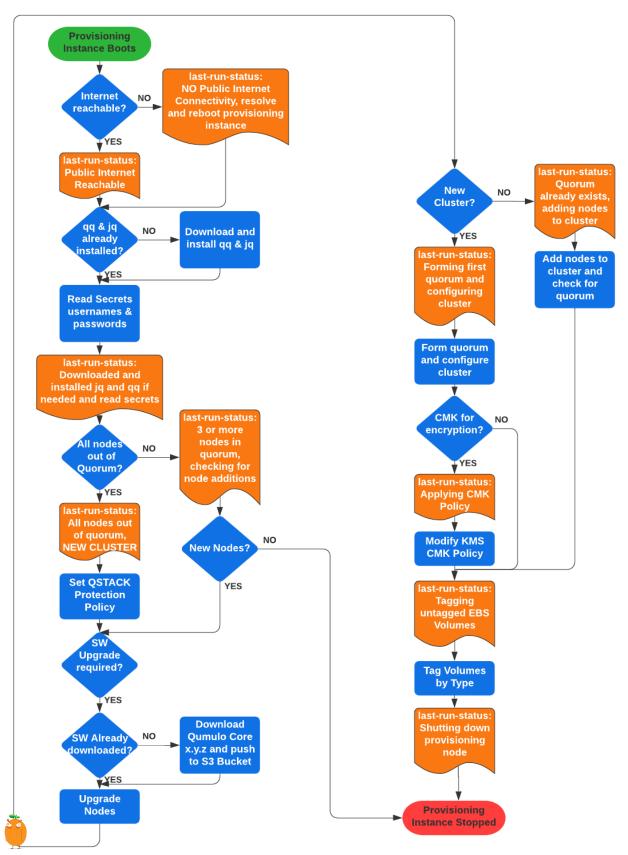


Provisioning instance flow chart

The provisioning instance executes the code in user data every boot cycle. The abbreviated logic diagram below shows the major branches and AWS SSM Parameter Store values for **last-run-status** throughout the execution of the code.









Download the Provisioning instance log

In the event none of the troubleshooting steps help to rectify the problems it's likely the Provisioning instance log will be helpful. To retrieve the log follow these steps:

- 1. Go to the AWS Console **EC2 Instances** page
- 2. **Check the box** beside the Provisioning instance
- 3. Select **Actions** in the upper right corner
- 4. Select Monitor & troubleshoot
- 5. Select **Get system log**
- 6. Select Download in the upper right corner

Feel free to review the log right in the AWS console or download it to collaborate with Qumulo to resolve the problem. Often the log will show an obvious error pointing you to the resolution.