

# How to Publish Forrest Documentation

*This documents the steps that the Documentation  
Coordinator should follow to update the Forrest Website.*

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**FIXME ( open):**

This is work in progress!

## 1. Introduction

All documentation about Apache Forrest is managed as a Forrest-built project located in the site-author directory of forrest/trunk SVN. The Apache Forrest website is updated by generating static pages from the site-author-project and committing them to the forrest/site SVN, which is then 'svn checkout' on the forrest.apache.org webserver to create the website.

See other notes for the Documentation Coordinator [role](#).

## 2. Updating the site with a local forrestbot

Do once, create \$FORREST\_HOME/deploy.svn.settings file. These credentials are needed by forrestbot so that it can do your 'svn add' and 'svn commit' etc. to the forrest/site/ repository. The deploy.svn.settings file looks like:

```
<?xml version="1.0"?>
<project>
  <property name="deploy.svn.user" value="myApacheUsername"/>
  <property name="deploy.svn.password" value="myPassword"/>
</project>
```

Generating and publishing the main docs is very easy using a local forrestbot:

```
cd site-author
forrest -f publish.xml build
forrest -f publish.xml deploy
```

This builds the documentation locally then deploys it by committing it to the [forrest/site SVN](#). Then a cronjob on the server will automatically publish it. However, if instant turnaround is required, then do this:

```
ssh people.apache.org
cd /www/forrest.apache.org
svn update
```

Publishing documentation for a particular plugin is done by:

```
cd plugins/myPluginName
$FORREST_HOME/tools/ant/bin/ant deploy-docs
```

See further information in the [buildPlugin](#) doc.

See some general notes about managing [project websites](#).

## 3. original docs

There have been a few explanations of our docs processing on the forrest-dev mail list. Need to glean the info from them. Here is the content of some:

```
To publish from trunk/site-author/

Do once:
# Create $FORREST_HOME/deploy.svn.settings file. These credentials
# are needed by forrestbot so that it can do your 'svn add'
```

```
# and 'svn commit' etc. to the forrest/site/ repository.
# The deploy.svn.settings file looks like:
<?xml version="1.0"?>
<project>
  <property name="deploy.svn.user" value="myApacheUsername"/>
  <property name="deploy.svn.password" value="myPassword"/>
</project>

# Make changes to sources, and then test, then commit.
# Best to wait on committing the source changes until
# you have built and reviewed the docs.

# Please, please, ensure valid xml docs. Errors will be
# reported during the 'build' phase if you don't.
# Also it prevents other people from working with the docs,
# which goes against the collaborative development process.

# You can do 'forrest validate-xdocs" beforehand or use
# a validating editor (link: catalog.html) or for a single doc use
# xmllint (link: catalog.html) from the command-line, e.g.
# xmllint --noout --valid --catalogs faq.xml

# Use the forrestbot to build and then deploy to svn.apache.org ...

cd site-author
forrest -f publish.xml build
# ... verify files in build/forrest-docs
forrest -f publish.xml deploy -Ddeploy.svn.commit-message="my commit message"

Now the files are in SVN at forrest/site
Periodically the real website files are updated from there.
You do not have to do anything else.

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Note: The first time that you deploy, it will need to do
a long svn checkout first.

FIXME: That commit message technique does not work.
The second word is treated as an ant target to be called.
Just leave it out and forrestbot will use a default message.
```

Some more notes that need to be integrated above ...

Note that forrestbot does not remove docs from the forrest/site SVN (FOR-392). So need to manually delete: 'cd /svn/forrest/site; svn delete oldDoc'. Then remove it from the forrestbot work directories: 'cd \$FORREST\_HOME/site-author; rm build/forrest-docs/oldDoc; rm work/svn-deploy/forrest-docs/oldDoc'.

The generated docs are in build/forrest-docs which is the name given to it in the forrestbot descriptor (site-author/publish.xml). Here is a trick for reviewing changes that forrestbot is ready to deploy ...

```
forrest -f publish.xml build
svn update work/svn-deploy/forrest-docs
diff -rq build/forrest-docs work/svn-deploy/forrest-docs | grep -v "\.svn" | grep differ
```

If you change something that affects all pages (e.g. layout changes; navigation menu additions or MOTD changes that affect old "versioned docs") then see the note in conf/cli.xconf about temporarily not excluding old "docs\_\*" patterns.