

FSx for ONTAP Monitoring and Auto-Resizing using AWS Lambda Function

NetApp Solutions

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Table of Contents

FSx for ONTAP Monitoring and Auto-Resizing usin	AWS Lambda Function
Overview: Monitoring and Auto-Resizing FSx for	ONTAP via AWS Lambda function
Solution Deployment	
Conclusion	

FSx for ONTAP Monitoring and Auto-Resizing using AWS Lambda Function

Overview: Monitoring and Auto-Resizing FSx for ONTAP via AWS Lambda function

FSx for ONTAP is a first-party enterprise-grade cloud storage service available on AWS that provides highly reliable, scalable, high-performing and feature-rich file storage built on the popular NetApp ONTAP file system.

FSx for ONTAP provides a seamless deployment and management experience. No storage expertise is required to get started. To simplify monitoring, an AWS lambda function (to automate resizing of total storage capacity, volume size or LUN size based on threshold) can be used. This document provides a step-by-step guide to creating an automated setup that monitors FSx for ONTAP at regular intervals, notifies and resizes when a user-specified threshold is crossed and notifies the administrator of the resizing activity.

Features

The solution provides the following features:

- · Ability to monitor:
 - Usage of overall Storage Capacity of FSx for ONTAP
 - Usage of each volume (thin provisioned / thick provisioned)
 - Usage of each LUN (thin provisioned / thick provisioned)
- Ability to resize any of the above when a user-defined threshold is breached
- · Alerting mechanism to receive usage warnings and resizing notifications via email
- Ability to delete snapshots older than the user-defined threshold
- · Ability to get a list of FlexClone volumes and snapshots associated
- · Ability to monitor the checks at a regular interval
- · Ability to use the solution with or without internet access
- Ability to deploy manually or using AWS CloudFormation Template
- Ability to monitor multiple FSx for ONTAP filesystems in a single VPC

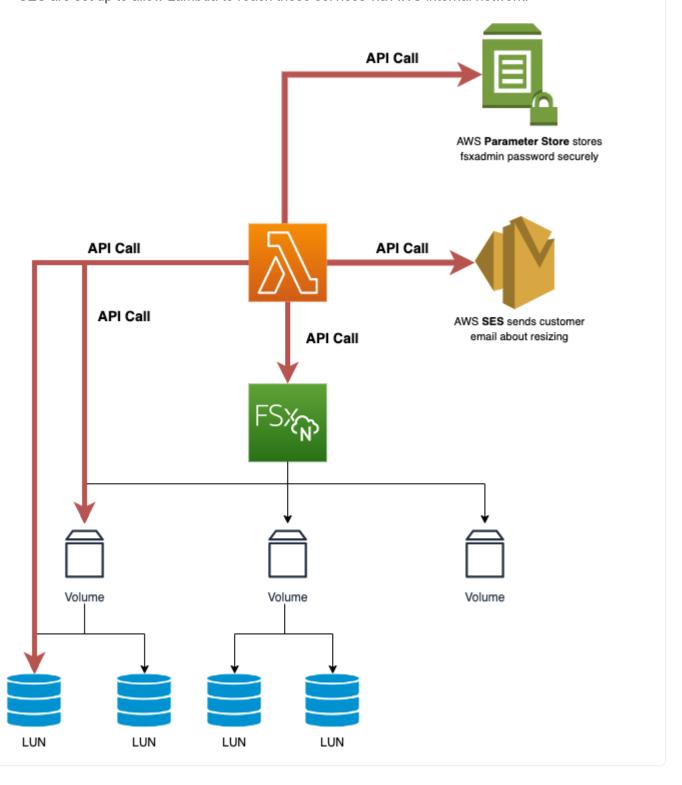
Pre-requisites

Before you begin, ensure that the following prerequisites are met:

- · FSx for ONTAP is deployed
- · Private subnet with connectivity to FSx for ONTAP
- · "fsxadmin" password has been set for FSx for ONTAP

High-Level Architecture

- AWS Lambda Function makes API calls to FSx for ONTAP for retrieving and updating the size of Storage Capacity, Volumes and LUNs.
- "fsxadmin" password stored as secure string in AWS SSM Parameter Store for an added layer of security.
- AWS SES (Simple Email Service) is used to notify end-users when a resizing event occurs.
- If deploying the solution in a VPC without internet access, VPC Endpoints for AWS SSM, FSx and SES are set up to allow Lambda to reach these services via AWS internal network.



Solution Deployment

Automated Deployment



Covers single FSx for ONTAP filesystem.

Follow the series of steps to complete the automated deployment of this solution:

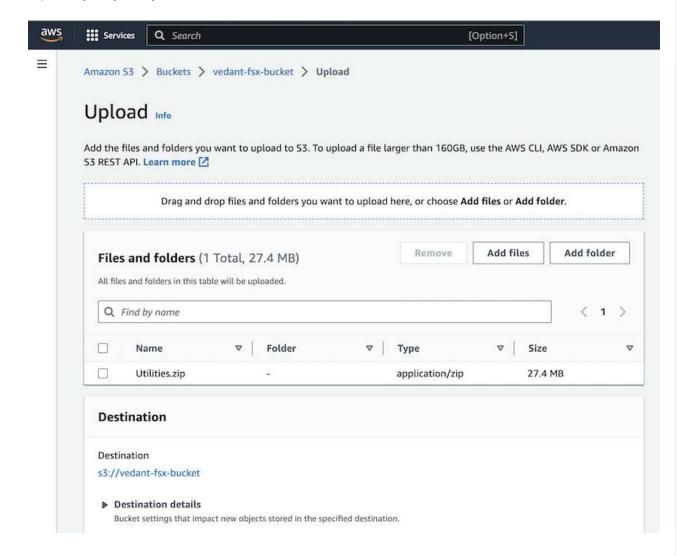
Step 1: Clone the GitHub repository

Clone the GitHub repository on your local system:

git clone https://github.com/NetApp/fsxn-monitoring-auto-resizing.git

Step 2: Setup an AWS S3 bucket

- 1. Navigate to AWS Console > **S3** and click on **Create bucket**. Create the bucket with the default settings.
- 2. Once inside the bucket, click on **Upload** > **Add files** and select **Utilities.zip** from the cloned GitHub repository on your system.



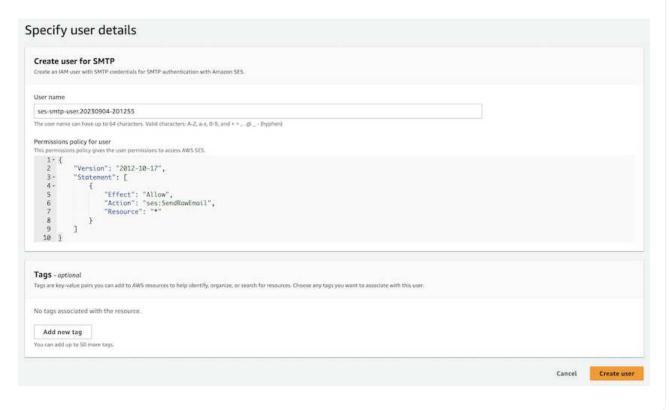
Step 3: AWS SES SMTP Setup (required if no internet access available)

Follow this step if you want to deploy the solution without internet access (Note: There will be added costs associated with VPC endpoints being set up.)

- 1. Navigate to AWS Console > AWS Simple Email Service (SES) > SMTP Settings and click on Create SMTP credentials
- 2. Enter an IAM User Name or leave it at the default value and click on **Create User**. Save the **SMTP** user name and **SMTP** password for further use.



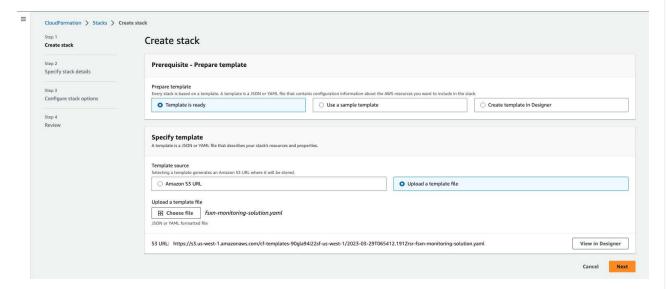
Skip this step if SES SMTP setup is already in place.



Step 4: AWS CloudFormation Deployment

1. Navigate to AWS Console > CloudFormation > Create stack > With New Resources (Standard).

Prepare template: Template is ready
Specify template: Upload a template file
Choose file: Browse to the cloned GitHub repo and select fsxnmonitoring-solution.yaml

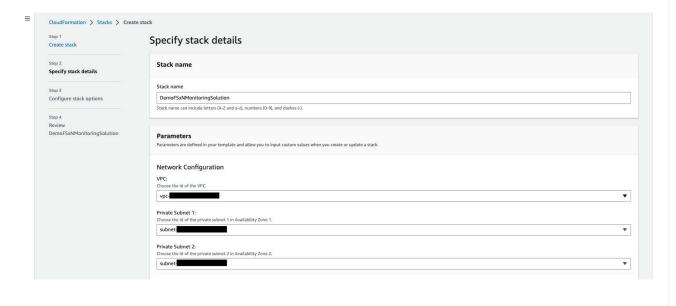


Click on Next

2. Enter the stack details. Click on Next and check the checkbox for "I acknowledge that AWS CloudFormation might create IAM resources" and click on Submit.



If "Does VPC have internet access?" is set to False, "SMTP Username for AWS SES" and "SMTP Password for AWS SES" are required. Otherwise, they can be left empty.



FSx for ONTAP Configuration Management IP address

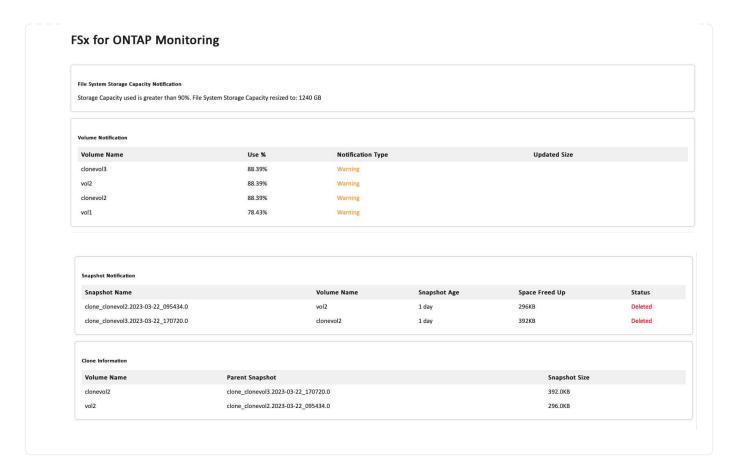
Enter the "Management endpoint - IP address" from the FSx for ONTAP console on AWS. 10.10.10.10 File System ID em ID* from the FSx for ONTAP console on AWS. ONTAP Administrator Username
Enter the FSx for ONTAP "ONTAP administrator username" from FSx for ONTAP console on AWS Resize Threshold (%) Enter the threshold percentage from 0-100. This threshold will be used to measure Storage Capacity, Volume and LUN usage and when the % use of any increases above this threshold, resize activity will occur. 90 **Enable Warning Notifications** Snapshot Age Threshold for Deletion (No. of Days) 30 General Configuration S3 Bucket Name Enter the name of the S3 Bucket wi True Does SSM VPC Endpoint already exist for the selected VPC?

If internet access is not available, set this variable to True if the VPC Endpoint for SSM already exists in the VPC. Set to False otherwise





- 3. Once the CloudFormation deployment starts, the email ID mentioned in the "sender email ID" will get an email asking them to authorize the use of the email address with AWS SES. Click on the link to verify the email address.
- 4. Once the CloudFormation stack deployment is completed, if there are any warnings/notifications, an email will be sent to the recipient email ID with the notification details.



Manual Deployment



Supports monitoring multiple FSx for ONTAP filesystems in a single VPC.

Follow the series of steps to complete the manual deployment of this solution:

Step 1: Clone the GitHub repository

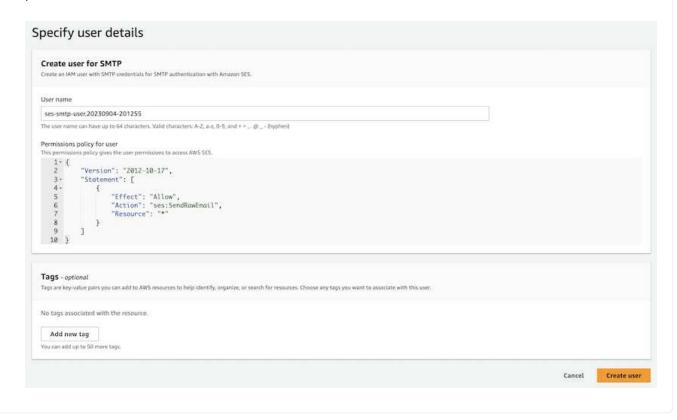
Clone the GitHub repository on your local system:

git clone https://github.com/NetApp/fsxn-monitoring-auto-resizing.git

Step 2: AWS SES SMTP Setup (required if no internet access available)

Follow this step if you want to deploy the solution without internet access (Note: There will be added costs associated with VPC endpoints being set up.)

- Navigate to AWS Console > AWS Simple Email Service (SES) > SMTP Settings and click on Create SMTP credentials
- 2. Enter an IAM User Name or leave it at the default value and click on Create. Save the username and password for further use.



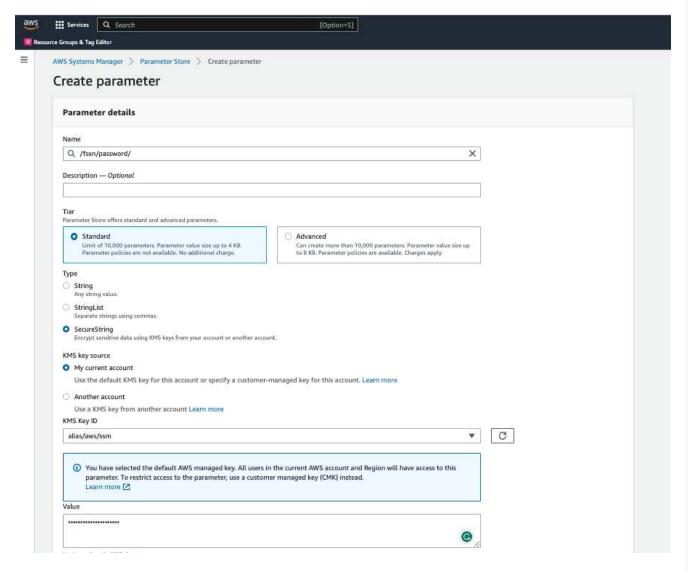
Step 3: Create SSM parameter for fsxadmin password

Navigate to AWS Console > Parameter Store and click on Create Parameter.

Name: <Any name/path for storing fsxadmin password>
Tier: Standard
Type: SecureString
KMS key source: My current account
KMS Key ID: <Use the default one selected>
Value: <Enter the password for "fsxadmin" user configured on FSx for ONTAP>

Click on Create parameter.

Repeat the above steps for all FSx for ONTAP filesystems to be monitored.



Perform the same steps for storing smtp username and smtp password if deploying the solution without internet access. Otherwise, skip adding these 2 parameters.

Step 4: Setup Email Service

Navigate to AWS Console > Simple Email Service (SES) and click on Create Identity.

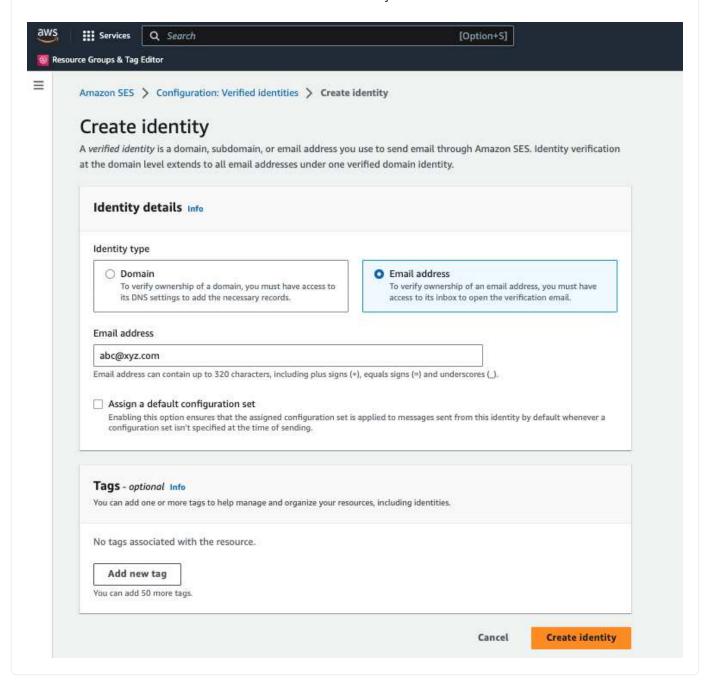
Identity type: Email address

Email address: <Enter an email address to be used for sending resizing

notifications>

Click on Create identity

The email ID mentioned in the "sender email ID" will get an email asking the owner to authorize the use of the email address with AWS SES. Click on the link to verify the email address.





Required only if deployed without internet access. There will be additional costs associated with VPC endpoints.

1. Navigate to AWS Console > **VPC** > **Endpoints** and click on **Create Endpoint** and enter the following details:

Name: <Any name for the vpc endpoint>

Service category: AWS Services

Services: com.amazonaws.<region>.fsx

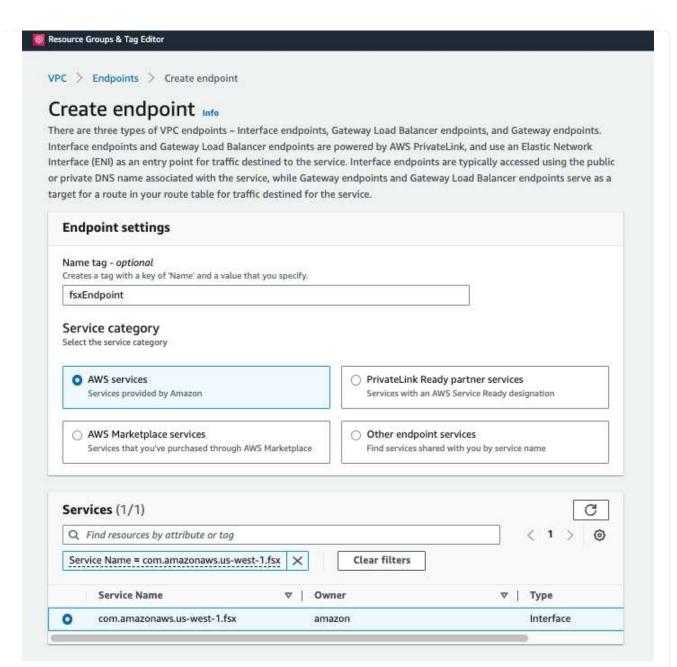
vpc: <select the vpc where lambda will be deployed>

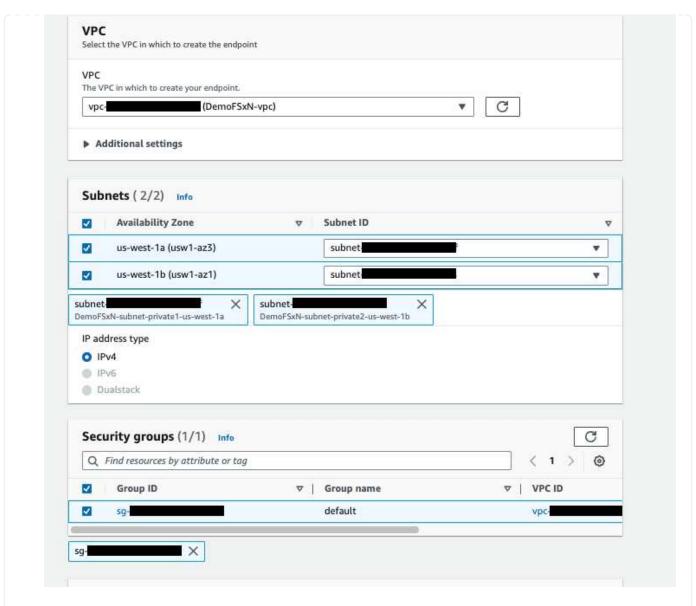
subnets: <select the subnets where lambda will be deployed>

Security groups: <select the security group>

Policy: <Either choose Full access or set your own custom policy>

Click on Create endpoint.





2. Follow the same process for creating SES and SSM VPC endpoints. All parameters remain the same as above except Services which will correspond to **com.amazonaws.<region>.smtp** and **com.amazonaws.<region>.ssm** respectively.

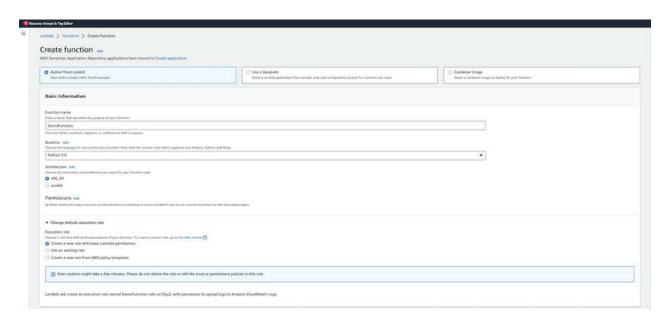
Step 6: Create and setup the AWS Lambda Function

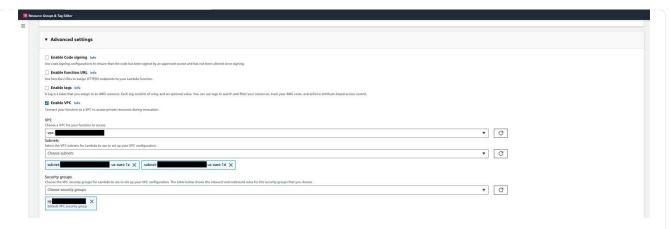
- Navigate to AWS Console > AWS Lambda > Functions and click on Create function in the same region as FSx for ONTAP
- 2. Use the default **Author from scratch** and update the following fields:

Function name: <Any name of your choice>
Runtime: Python 3.9
Architecture: x86_64
Permissions: Select "Create a new role with basic Lambda permissions"
Advanced Settings:
Enable VPC: Checked

VPC: <Choose either the same VPC as FSx for ONTAP or a VPC that can access both FSx for ONTAP and the internet via a private subnet>
Subnets: <Choose 2 private subnets that have NAT gateway attached pointing to public subnets with internet gateway and subnets that have internet access>
Security Group: <Choose a Security Group>

Click on Create function.

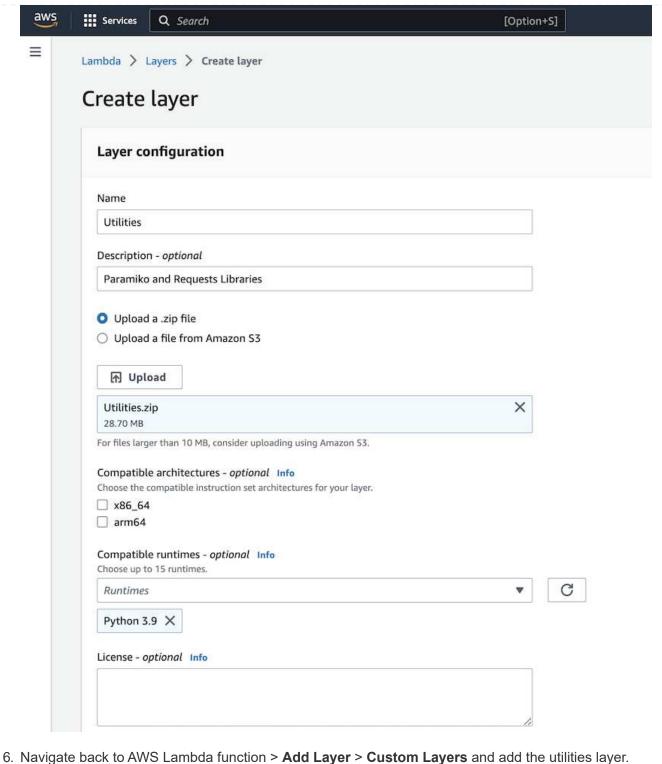


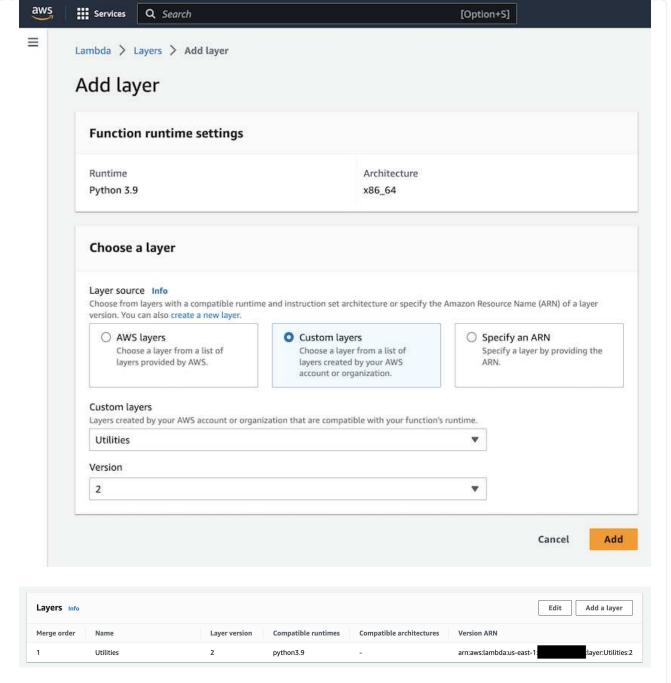


3. Navigate to the newly created Lambda function > Scroll down to the **Layers** section and click on **Add** a **layer**.



- 4. Click on create a new layer under Layer source
- 5. Create a Layer and upload **Utilities.zip** file. Select **Python 3.9** as the compatible runtime and click on **Create**.

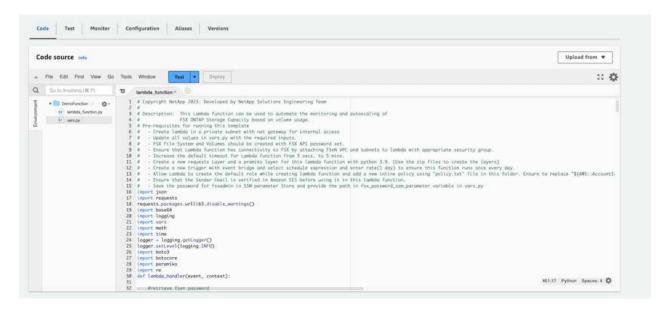




- 7. Navigate to the **Configuration** tab of the Lambda function and click on **Edit** under **General Configuration**. Change the Timeout to **5 mins** and click **Save**.
- 8. Navigate to **Permissions** tab of the Lambda function and click on the role assigned. In the permissions tab of the role, click on **Add permissions** > **Create Inline policy**.
 - a. Click on the JSON tab and paste the contents of the file policy.json from the GitHub repo.
 - b. Replace every occurrence of \${AWS::AccountId} with your account ID and click on Review Policy
 - c. Provide a Name for the policy and click on Create policy
- 9. Copy the contents of **fsxn_monitoring_resizing_lambda.py** from the git repo to **lambda_function.py** in the AWS Lambda function Code Source section.
- 10. Create a new file in the same level as lambda_function.py and name it vars.py and copy the contents of vars.py from the git repo to the lambda function vars.py file. Update the variable values in vars.py. Reference variable definitions below and click on **Deploy**:

Name	Туре	Description
fsxList	List	(Required) List of all FSx for ONTAP filesystems to be monitored. Include all the file systems in the list for monitoring and autoresizing.
fsxMgmtlp	String	(Required) Enter the "Management endpoint - IP address" from the FSx for ONTAP console on AWS.
fsxld	String	(Required) Enter the "File system ID" from the FSx for ONTAP console on AWS.
username	String	(Required) Enter the FSx for ONTAP "ONTAP administrator username" from FSx for ONTAP console on AWS.
resize_threshold	Integer	(Required) Enter the threshold percentage from 0-100. This threshold will be used to measure Storage Capacity, Volume and LUN usage and when the % use of any increases above this threshold, resize activity will occur.
fsx_password_ssm_paramete r	String	(Required) Enter the path name used in AWS Parameter Store for storing "fsxadmin" password.
warn_notification	Bool	(Required) Set this variable to True to receive a notification when Storage Capacity/Volume/LUN usage exceeds 75% but is less than the threshold.
enable_snapshot_deletion	Bool	(Required) Set this variable to True to enable volume level snapshot deletion for snapshots older than the value specified in "snapshot_age_threshold_in_days".
snapshot_age_threshold_in_d ays	Integer	(Required) Enter the number of days of volume level snapshots you want to retain. Any snapshots older than the value provided will be deleted and the same will be notified via email.

internet_access	Bool	(Required) Set this variable to True if internet access is available from the subnet where this lambda is deployed. Otherwise set it to False.
smtp_region	String	(Optional) If "internet_access" variable is set to False, enter the region in which lambda is deployed. E.g. us-east-1 (in this format)
smtp_username_ssm_parame ter	String	(Optional) If "internet_access" variable is set to False, enter the path name used in AWS Parameter Store for storing the SMTP username.
smtp_password_ssm_parame ter	String	(Optional) If "internet_access" variable is set to False, enter the path name used in AWS Parameter Store for storing the SMTP password.
sender_email	String	(Required) Enter the email ID registered on SES that will be used by the lambda function to send notification alerts related to monitoring and resizing.
recipient_email	String	(Required) Enter the email ID on which you want to receive the alert notifications.



- 11. Click on **Test**, create a test event with an empty JSON object and run the test by clicking **Invoke** to check if the script is running properly.
- 12. Once tested successfully, navigate to Configuration > Triggers > Add Trigger.

Select a Source: EventBridge Rule: Create a new rule Rule name: <Enter any name> Rule type: Schedule expression Schedule expression: <Use "rate(1 day)" if you want the function to run daily or add your own cron expression> Click on Add. Resource Groups & Tag Editor \equiv Lambda > Add trigger Add trigger Trigger configuration Info EventBridge (CloudWatch Events) aws events management-tools Pick an existing rule, or create a new one. Create a new rule Existing rules Enter a name to uniquely identify your rule. DemoFSxNRule Rule description Provide an optional description for your rule. Rule type Trigger your target based on an event pattern, or based on an automated schedule. O Event pattern Schedule expression Schedule expression Self-trigger your target on an automated schedule using Cron or rate expressions. Cron expressions are in UTC. rate(1 day)

Conclusion

e.g. rate(1 day), cron(0 17 ? * MON-FRI *)

With the provided solution, it is easy to set up a monitoring solution that regularly monitors FSx for ONTAP Storage, resizes it based on a user-specified threshold and provides an alerting mechanism. This makes the process of using and monitoring FSx for ONTAP seamless freeing up administrators to focus on business-critical activities while storage grows automatically when required.

Lambda will add the necessary permissions for Amazon EventBridge (CloudWatch Events) to invoke your Lambda

function from this trigger. Learn more about the Lambda permissions model.

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