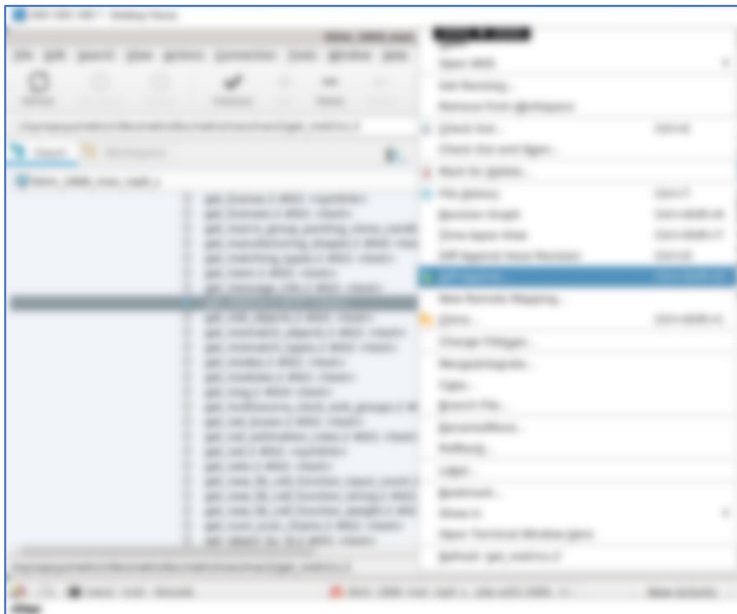# Viewing Diffs in Perforce

Before checking in changes to a man page, you should view the diffs between branches for differences. Viewing the differences can avoid unintentional merges into both branches, which may overwrite any changes in one branch.
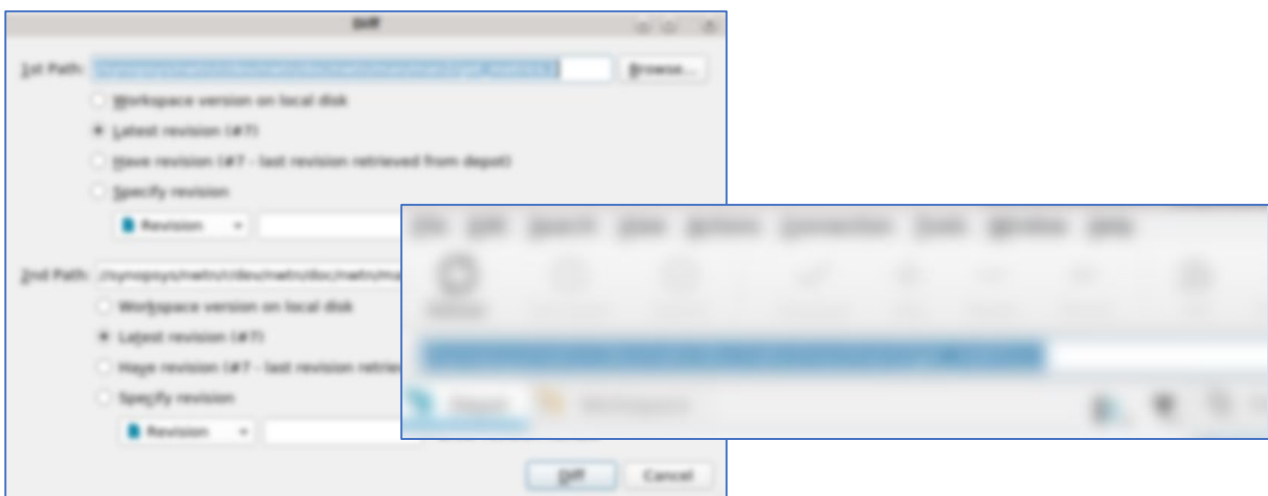
You can view diffs either from the depot or from your workspace. If your workspace paths are shorter than the depot paths, viewing diffs from your workspace may be easier to navigate.

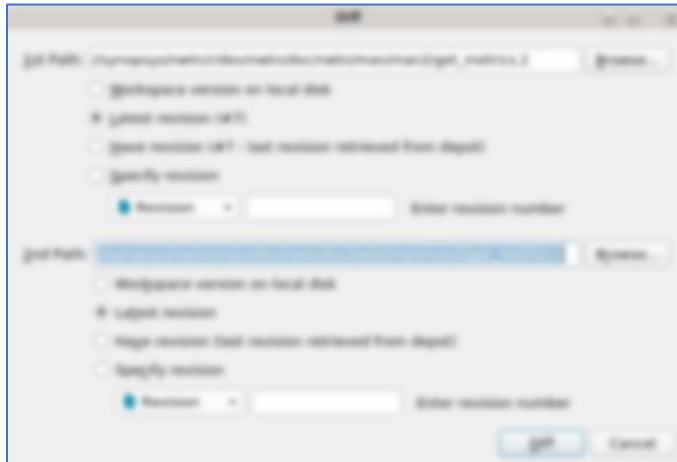This tutorial demonstrates how to view diffs from the depot.

1. Right click the man page you would like to view differences between branches and select **Diff Against**.
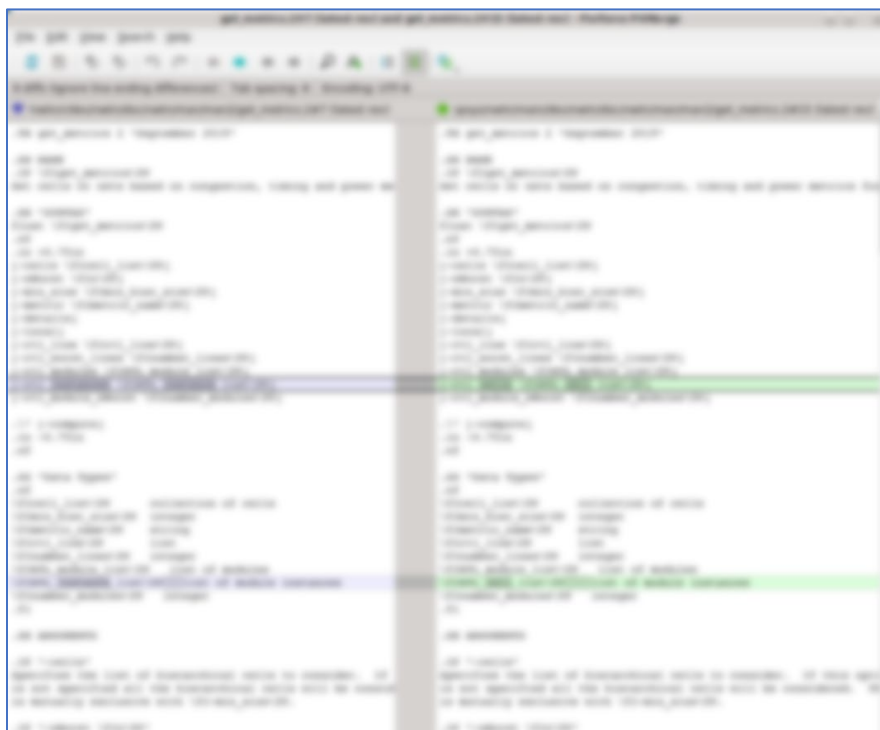

2. Ensure that the **1ˢᵗ Path** address is the same path in the address bar of the selected man page.

3. In the **2ⁿᵈ Path**, paste the path for the man page located in the other branch you would like to compare. Alternatively, you can select **Browse** to find the man page file in the depot or in your local workspace.

4. Select **Latest revision** to compare the most recent changes between the two branches.

5. Click **Diff** to view the differences.

If the man page is identical in both branches, you can merge your edits into both branches.

If there are differences, a Perforce P4Merge window pops up and highlights the changes between the two branches.

Do NOT merge your edit into both branches. The previous file will be overwritten if your edit is merged into both branches.