

Plan the FPolicy configuration

ONTAP 9

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Plan the FPolicy configuration

Requirements, considerations, and best practices for configuring FPolicy

Before you create and configure FPolicy configurations on your SVMs, you need to be aware of certain requirements, considerations, and best practices for configuring FPolicy.

FPolicy features are configured either through the command line interface (CLI) or through APIs.

Requirements for setting up FPolicy

Before you configure and enable FPolicy on your storage virtual machine (SVM), you need to be aware of certain requirements.

- All nodes in the cluster must be running a version of ONTAP that supports FPolicy.
- If you are not using the ONTAP native FPolicy engine, you must have external FPolicy servers (FPolicy servers) installed.
- The FPolicy servers must be installed on a server accessible from the data LIFs of the SVM where FPolicy policies are enabled.



Beginning with ONTAP 9.8, ONTAP provides a client LIF service for outbound FPolicy connections with the addition of the data-fpolicy-client service. Learn more about LIFs and service policies.

- The IP address of the FPolicy server must be configured as a primary or secondary server in the FPolicy policy external engine configuration.
- If the FPolicy servers access data over a privileged data channel, the following additional requirements must be met:
 - SMB must be licensed on the cluster.

Privileged data access is accomplished using SMB connections.

- A user credential must be configured for accessing files over the privileged data channel.
- The FPolicy server must run under the credentials configured in the FPolicy configuration.
- All data LIFs used to communicate with the FPolicy servers must be configured to have cifs as one of the allowed protocols.

This includes the LIFs used for passthrough-read connections.

Best practices and recommendations when setting up FPolicy

When setting up FPolicy on storage virtual machines (SVMs), get familiar with the general configuration best practices and recommendations to ensure that your FPolicy configuration provides robust monitoring performance and results that meet your requirements.

For specific guidelines related to performance, sizing, and configuration, work with your FPolicy partner application.

Policy configuration

Configuration of the FPolicy external engine, events, and scope for SVMs can improve your overall experience and security.

- Configuration of the FPolicy external engine for SVMs:
 - Providing additional security comes with a performance cost. Enabling Secure Sockets Layer (SSL)
 communication has a performance effect on accessing shares.
 - The FPolicy external engine should be configured with more than one FPolicy server to provide resiliency and high availability of FPolicy server notification processing.
- Configuration of FPolicy events for SVMs:

Monitoring file operations influences your overall experience. For example, filtering unwanted file operations on the storage side improves your experience. NetApp recommends setting up the following configuration:

- Monitoring the minimum types of file operations and enabling the maximum number of filters without breaking the use case.
- Using filters for getattr, read, write, open, and close operations. The SMB and NFS home directory environments have a high percentage of these operations.
- Configuration of FPolicy scope for SVMs:

Restrict the scope of the policies to the relevant storage objects, such as shares, volumes, and exports, instead of enabling them across the entire SVM. NetApp recommends checking the directory extensions. If the is-file-extension-check-on-directories-enabled parameter is set to true, directory objects are subjected to the same extension checks as regular files.

Network configuration

Network connectivity between the FPolicy server and the controller should be of low latency. NetApp recommends separating FPolicy traffic from client traffic by using a private network.

In addition, you should place external FPolicy servers (FPolicy servers) in close proximity to the cluster with high-bandwidth connectivity to provide minimal latency and high-bandwidth connectivity.



For a scenario in which the LIF for FPolicy traffic is configured on a different port to the LIF for client traffic, the FPolicy LIF might fail over to the other node because of a port failure. As a result, the FPolicy server becomes unreachable from the node which causes the FPolicy notifications for file operations on the node to fail. To avoid this issue, verify that the FPolicy server can be reached through at least one LIF on the node to process FPolicy requests for the file operations performed on that node.

Hardware configuration

You can have the FPolicy server on either a physical server or a virtual server. If the FPolicy server is in a virtual environment, you should allocate dedicated resources (CPU, network, and memory) to the virtual server.

The cluster node-to-FPolicy server ratio should be optimized to ensure that FPolicy servers are not overloaded, which can introduce latencies when the SVM responds to client requests. The optimal ratio depends on the partner application for which the FPolicy server is being used. NetApp recommends working with partners to determine the appropriate value.

Multiple-policy configuration

The FPolicy policy for native blocking has the highest priority, irrespective of the sequence number, and decision-altering policies have a higher priority than others. Policy priority depends on the use case. NetApp recommends working with partners to determine the appropriate priority.

Size considerations

FPolicy performs in-line monitoring of SMB and NFS operations, sends notifications to the external server, and waits for a response, depending on the mode of external engine communication (synchronous or asynchronous). This process affects the performance of SMB and NFS access and CPU resources.

To mitigate any issues, NetApp recommends working with partners to assess and size the environment before enabling FPolicy. Performance is affected by several factors including the number of users, workload characteristics, such as operations per user and data size, network latency, and failure or server slowness.

Monitor performance

FPolicy is a notification-based system. Notifications are sent to an external server for processing and to generate a response back to ONTAP. This round-trip process increases latency for client access.

Monitoring the performance counters on the FPolicy server and in ONTAP gives you the capability to identify bottlenecks in the solution and to tune the parameters as necessary for an optimal solution. For example, an increase in FPolicy latency has a cascading effect on SMB and NFS access latency. Therefore, you should monitor both workload (SMB and NFS) and FPolicy latency. In addition, you can use quality-of-service policies in ONTAP to set up a workload for each volume or SVM that is enabled for FPolicy.

NetApp recommends running the statistics show -object workload command to display workload statistics. In addition, you should monitor the following parameters:

- Average, read, and write latencies
- Total number of operations
- Read and write counters

You can monitor the performance of FPolicy subsystems by using the following FPolicy counters.



You must be in diagnostic mode to collect statistics related to FPolicy.

Steps

- 1. Collect FPolicy counters:
 - a. statistics start -object fpolicy -instance instance name -sample-id ID
 - b. statistics start -object fpolicy_policy -instance instance_name -sample-id
 TD
- 2. Display FPolicy counters:
 - a. statistics show -object fpolicy -instance instance name -sample-id ID
 - b. statistics show -object fpolicy server -instance instance name -sample-id ID

The fpolicy and fpolicy_server counters give you information on several performance parameters which are described in the following table.

Counters	Description	
"fpolicy" counters		
max_request_latency	Maximum screen requests latency	
outstanding_requests	Total number of screen requests in process	
request_latency_hist	Histogram of latency for screen requests	
requests_dispatched_rat e	Number of screen requests dispatched per second	
requests_received_rate	Number of screen requests received per second	
"fpolicy_server" counters		
max_request_latency	Maximum latency for a screen request	
outstanding_requests	Total number of screen requests waiting for response	
request_latency	Average latency for screen request	
request_latency_hist	Histogram of latency for screen requests	
request_sent_rate	Number of screen requests sent to FPolicy server per second	
response_received_rate	Number of screen responses received from FPolicy server per second	

Manage FPolicy workflow and dependency on other technologies

NetApp recommends disabling an FPolicy policy before making any configuration changes. For example, if you want to add or modify an IP address in the external engine configured for the enabled policy, first disable the policy.

If you configure FPolicy to monitor NetApp FlexCache volumes, NetApp recommends that you not configure FPolicy to monitor read and getattr file operations. Monitoring these operations in ONTAP requires the retrieval of inode-to-path (I2P) data. Because I2P data cannot be retrieved from FlexCache volumes, it must be retrieved from the origin volume. Therefore, monitoring these operations eliminates the performance benefits that FlexCache can provide.

When both FPolicy and an off-box antivirus solution are deployed, the antivirus solution receives notifications first. FPolicy processing starts only after antivirus scanning is complete. It is important that you size antivirus solutions correctly because a slow antivirus scanner can affect overall performance.

Passthrough-read upgrade and revert considerations

There are certain upgrade and revert considerations that you must know about before upgrading to an ONTAP release that supports passthrough-read or before reverting to a release that does not support passthrough-read.

Upgrading

After all nodes are upgraded to a version of ONTAP that supports FPolicy passthrough-read, the cluster is capable of using the passthrough-read functionality; however, passthrough-read is disabled by default on existing FPolicy configurations. To use passthrough-read on existing FPolicy configurations, you must disable the FPolicy policy and modify the configuration, and then reenable the configuration.

Reverting

Before reverting to a version of ONTAP that does not support FPolicy passthrough-read, you must meet the following conditions:

- Disable all the policies using passthrough-read, and then modify the affected configurations so that they do not use passthrough-read.
- Disable FPolicy functionality on the cluster by disabling every FPolicy policy on the cluster.

What the steps for setting up an FPolicy configuration are

Before FPolicy can monitor file access, an FPolicy configuration must be created and enabled on the storage virtual machine (SVM) for which FPolicy services are required.

The steps for setting up and enabling an FPolicy configuration on the SVM are as follows:

1. Create an FPolicy external engine.

The FPolicy external engine identifies the external FPolicy servers (FPolicy servers) that are associated with a specific FPolicy configuration. If the internal "native" FPolicy engine is used to create a native file-blocking configuration, you do not need to create an FPolicy external engine.

2. Create an FPolicy event.

An FPolicy event describes what the FPolicy policy should monitor. Events consist of the protocols and file operations to monitor, and can contain a list of filters. Events use filters to narrow the list of monitored events for which the FPolicy external engine must send notifications. Events also specify whether the policy monitors volume operations.

3. Create an FPolicy policy.

The FPolicy policy is responsible for associating, with the appropriate scope, the set of events that need to be monitored and for which of the monitored events notifications must be sent to the designated FPolicy server (or to the native engine if no FPolicy servers are configured). The policy also defines whether the FPolicy server is allowed privileged access to the data for which it receives notifications. An FPolicy server needs privileged access if the server needs to access the data. Typical use cases where privileged access is needed include file blocking, quota management, and hierarchical storage management. The policy is where you specify whether the configuration for this policy uses an FPolicy server or the internal "native" FPolicy server.

A policy specifies whether screening is mandatory. If screening is mandatory and all FPolicy servers are down or no response is received from the FPolicy servers within a defined timeout period, then file access is denied.

A policy's boundaries are the SVM. A policy cannot apply to more than one SVM. However, a specific SVM can have multiple FPolicy policies, each with the same or different combination of scope, event, and external server configurations.

4. Configure the policy scope.

The FPolicy scope determines which volumes, shares, or export-policies the policy acts on or excludes from monitoring. A scope also determines which file extensions should be included or excluded from FPolicy monitoring.



5. Enable the FPolicy policy.

When the policy is enabled, the control channels and, optionally, the privileged data channels are connected. The FPolicy process on the nodes on which the SVM participates begin monitoring file and folder access and, for events that match configured criteria, sends notifications to the FPolicy servers (or to the native engine if no FPolicy servers are configured).



If the policy uses native file blocking, an external engine is not configured or associated with the policy.

Plan the FPolicy external engine configuration

Plan the FPolicy external engine configuration

Before you configure the FPolicy external engine (external engine), you must understand what it means to create an external engine and which configuration parameters are available. This information helps you to determine which values to set for each parameter.

Information that is defined when creating the FPolicy external engine

The external engine configuration defines the information that FPolicy needs to make and manage connections to the external FPolicy servers (FPolicy servers), including the following information:

- SVM name
- · Engine name
- The IP addresses of the primary and secondary FPolicy servers and the TCP port number to use when making the connection to the FPolicy servers
- Whether the engine type is asynchronous or synchronous
- How to authenticate the connection between the node and the FPolicy server

If you choose to configure mutual SSL authentication, then you must also configure parameters that provide SSL certificate information.

How to manage the connection using various advanced privilege settings

This includes parameters that define such things as timeout values, retry values, keep-alive values, maximum request values, sent and receive buffer size values, and session timeout values.

The vserver fpolicy policy external-engine create command is used to create an FPolicy external engine.

What the basic external engine parameters are

You can use the following table of basic FPolicy configuration parameters to help you plan your configuration:

Type of i	nformation	Option
SVM		-vserver vserver_name
Specifies engine.	the SVM name that you want to associate with this external	
engine, p	olicy configuration is defined within a single SVM. The external olicy event, policy scope, and policy that combine together to FPolicy policy configuration must all be associated with the same	
Engine na	ame	-engine-name engine_name
specify th	the name to assign to the external engine configuration. You must e external engine name later when you create the FPolicy policy.	
The name	e can be up to 256 characters long.	
i	The name should be up to 200 characters long if configuring the external engine name in a MetroCluster or SVM disaster recovery configuration.	
The name	e can contain any combination of the following ASCII-range s:	
• a thro	ough z	
• A thro	ough z	
• 0 thro	ough 9	
• " " , "-	", and "."	
Primary F	Policy servers	-primary-servers
	the primary FPolicy servers to which the node sends notifications in FPolicy policy. The value is specified as a comma-delimited list resses.	IP_address,
which the primary F multiple p	an one primary server IP address is specified, every node on SVM participates creates a control connection to every specified Policy server at the time the policy is enabled. If you configure brimary FPolicy servers, notifications are sent to the FPolicy servers d-robin fashion.	
configura	ernal engine is used in a MetroCluster or SVM disaster recovery tion, you should specify the IP addresses of the FPolicy servers at e site as primary servers. The IP addresses of the FPolicy servers stination site should be specified as secondary servers.	

Port number	-port integer
Specifies the port number of the FPolicy service.	
Secondary FPolicy servers Specifies the secondary FPolicy servers to which to send file access events for a given FPolicy policy. The value is specified as a comma-delimited list of IP addresses. Secondary servers are used only when none of the primary servers are reachable. Connections to secondary servers are established when the policy is enabled, but notifications are sent to secondary servers only if none of the primary servers are reachable. If you configure multiple secondary servers, notifications are sent to the FPolicy servers in a round-robin fashion.	-secondary-servers IP_address,
Specifies whether the external engine operates in synchronous or asynchronous mode. By default, FPolicy operates in synchronous mode. When set to synchronous, file request processing sends a notification to the FPolicy server, but then does not continue until after receiving a response from the FPolicy server. At that point, request flow either continues or processing results in denial, depending on whether the response from the FPolicy server permits the requested action. When set to asynchronous, file request processing sends a notification to the FPolicy server, and then continues.	-extern-engine-type external_engine_type The value for this parameter can be one of the following: • synchronous • asynchronous
SSL option for communication with FPolicy server Specifies the SSL option for communication with the FPolicy server. This is a required parameter. You can choose one of the options based on the following information: • When set to no-auth, no authentication takes place. The communication link is established over TCP. • When set to server-auth, the SVM authenticates the FPolicy server using SSL server authentication. • When set to mutual-auth, mutual authentication takes place between the SVM and the FPolicy server; the SVM authenticates the FPolicy server, and the FPolicy server authenticates the SVM. If you choose to configure mutual SSL authentication, then you must also configure the -certificate-common-name, -certificate-serial, and -certificate-ca parameters.	-ssl-option {no-auth server-auth mutual-auth }

Certificate FQDN or custom common name Specifies the certificate name used if SSL authentication between the SVM and the FPolicy server is configured. You can specify the certificate name as an FQDN or as a custom common name. If you specify mutual-auth for the -ssl-option parameter, you must specify a value for the -certificate-common-name parameter.	-certificate-common -name text
Certificate serial number Specifies the serial number of the certificate used for authentication if SSL authentication between the SVM and the FPolicy server is configured. If you specify mutual-auth for the -ssl-option parameter, you must specify a value for the -certificate-serial parameter.	-certificate-serial text
Certificate authority Specifies the CA name of the certificate used for authentication if SSL authentication between the SVM and the FPolicy server is configured. If you specify mutual-auth for the -ssl-option parameter, you must specify a value for the -certificate-ca parameter.	-certificate-ca text

What the advanced external engine options are

You can use the following table of advanced FPolicy configuration parameters as you plan whether to customize your configuration with advanced parameters. You use these parameters to modify communication behavior between the cluster nodes and the FPolicy servers:

Type of information	Option
Timeout for canceling a request Specifies the time interval in hours (h), minutes (m), or seconds (s) that the	-reqs-cancel-timeout integer[h m s]
node waits for a response from the FPolicy server.	
If the timeout interval passes, the node sends a cancel request to the FPolicy server. The node then sends the notification to an alternate FPolicy server. This timeout helps in handling an FPolicy server that is not responding, which can improve SMB/NFS client response. Also, canceling requests after a timeout period can help in releasing system resources because the notification request is moved from a down/bad FPolicy server to an alternate FPolicy server.	
The range for this value is 0 through 100. If the value is set to 0, the option is disabled and cancel request messages are not sent to the FPolicy server. The default is 20s.	

Timeout for aborting a request	-reqs-abort-timeout ` `integer[h m s]
Specifies the timeout in hours (h), minutes (m), or seconds (s) for aborting a request.	
The range for this value is 0 through 200.	
Interval for sending status requests Specifies the interval in hours (h), minutes (m), or seconds (s) after which a	-status-req-interval integer[h m s]
status request is sent to the FPolicy server. The range for this value is 0 through 50. If the value is set to 0, the option is disabled and status request messages are not sent to the FPolicy server. The default is 10s.	
Maximum outstanding requests on the FPolicy server	-max-server-reqs integer
Specifies the maximum number of outstanding requests that can be queued on the FPolicy server.	
The range for this value is 1 through 10000. The default is 500.	
Timeout for disconnecting a nonresponsive FPolicy server	-server-progress -timeout integer[h m s]
Specifies the time interval in hours (h), minutes (m), or seconds (s) after which the connection to the FPolicy server is terminated.	cimeouc integer[n m 3]
The connection is terminated after the timeout period only if the FPolicy server's queue contains the maximum allowed requests and no response is received within the timeout period. The maximum allowed number of requests is either 50 (the default) or the number specified by the max-server-reqs-parameter.	
The range for this value is 1 through 100. The default is 60s.	
Interval for sending keep-alive messages to the FPolicy server	-keep-alive-interval- integer[h m s]
Specifies the time interval in hours (h), minutes (m), or seconds (s) at which keep-alive messages are sent to the FPolicy server.	Integer[n m s]
Keep-alive messages detect half-open connections.	
The range for this value is 10 through 600. If the value is set to 0, the option is disabled and keep-alive messages are prevented from being sent to the FPolicy servers. The default is 120s.	

Maximum reconnect attempts Specifies the maximum number of times the SVM attempts to reconnect to the FPolicy server after the connection has been broken. The range for this value is 0 through 20. The default is 5.	-max-connection-retries integer
Receive buffer size Specifies the receive buffer size of the connected socket for the FPolicy server. The default value is set to 256 kilobytes (Kb). When the value is set to 0, the size of the receive buffer is set to a value defined by the system. For example, if the default receive buffer size of the socket is 65536 bytes, by setting the tunable value to 0, the socket buffer size is set to 65536 bytes. You can use any non-default value to set the size (in bytes) of the receive buffer.	-recv-buffer-size integer
Specifies the send buffer size of the connected socket for the FPolicy server. The default value is set to 256 kilobytes (Kb). When the value is set to 0, the size of the send buffer is set to a value defined by the system. For example, if the default send buffer size of the socket is set to 65536 bytes, by setting the tunable value to 0, the socket buffer size is set to 65536 bytes. You can use any non-default value to set the size (in bytes) of the send buffer.	-send-buffer-size integer
Timeout for purging a session ID during reconnection Specifies the interval in hours (h), minutes (m), or seconds (s) after which a new session ID is sent to the FPolicy server during reconnection attempts. If the connection between the storage controller and the FPolicy server is terminated and reconnection is made within the -session-timeout interval, the old session ID is sent to FPolicy server so that it can send responses for old notifications. The default value is set to 10 seconds.	-session-timeout [integerh][integerm][integers]

Additional information about configuring FPolicy external engines to use SSL authenticated connections

You need to know some additional information if you want to configure the FPolicy external engine to use SSL when connecting to FPolicy servers.

SSL server authentication

If you choose to configure the FPolicy external engine for SSL server authentication, before creating the external engine, you must install the public certificate of the certificate authority (CA) that signed the FPolicy server certificate.

Mutual authentication

If you configure FPolicy external engines to use SSL mutual authentication when connecting storage virtual machine (SVM) data LIFs to external FPolicy servers, before creating the external engine, you must install the public certificate of the CA that signed the FPolicy server certificate along with the public certificate and key file for authentication of the SVM. You must not delete this certificate while any FPolicy policies are using the installed certificate.

If the certificate is deleted while FPolicy is using it for mutual authentication when connecting to an external FPolicy server, you cannot reenable a disabled FPolicy policy that uses that certificate. The FPolicy policy cannot be reenabled in this situation even if a new certificate with the same settings is created and installed on the SVM.

If the certificate has been deleted, you need to install a new certificate, create new FPolicy external engines that use the new certificate, and associate the new external engines with the FPolicy policy that you want to reenable by modifying the FPolicy policy.

Install certificates for SSL

The public certificate of the CA that is used to sign the FPolicy server certificate is installed by using the security certificate install command with the -type parameter set to client-ca. The private key and public certificate required for authentication of the SVM is installed by using the security certificate install command with the -type parameter set to server.

Certificates do not replicate in SVM disaster recovery relationships with a non-ID-preserve configuration

Security certificates used for SSL authentication when making connections to FPolicy servers do not replicate to SVM disaster recovery destinations with non-ID-preserve configurations. Although the FPolicy external-engine configuration on the SVM is replicated, security certificates are not replicated. You must manually install the security certificates on the destination.

When you set up the SVM disaster recovery relationship, the value you select for the <code>-identity-preserve</code> option of the <code>snapmirror</code> <code>create</code> command determines the configuration details that are replicated in the destination SVM.

If you set the <code>-identity-preserve</code> option to <code>true</code> (ID-preserve), all of the FPolicy configuration details are replicated, including the security certificate information. You must install the security certificates on the destination only if you set the option to <code>false</code> (non-ID-preserve).

Restrictions for cluster-scoped FPolicy external engines with MetroCluster and SVM disaster recovery configurations

You can create a cluster-scoped FPolicy external engine by assigning the cluster storage virtual machine (SVM) to the external engine. However, when creating a cluster-scoped

external engine in a MetroCluster or SVM disaster recovery configuration, there are certain restrictions when choosing the authentication method that the SVM uses for external communication with the FPolicy server.

There are three authentication options that you can choose when creating external FPolicy servers: no authentication, SSL server authentication, and SSL mutual authentication. Although there are no restrictions when choosing the authentication option if the external FPolicy server is assigned to a data SVM, there are restrictions when creating a cluster-scoped FPolicy external engine:

Configuration	Permitted?
MetroCluster or SVM disaster recovery and a cluster-scoped FPolicy external engine with no authentication (SSL is not configured)	Yes
MetroCluster or SVM disaster recovery and a cluster-scoped FPolicy external engine with SSL server or SSL mutual authentication	No

- If a cluster-scoped FPolicy external engine with SSL authentication exists and you want to create a MetroCluster or SVM disaster recovery configuration, you must modify this external engine to use no authentication or remove the external engine before you can create the MetroCluster or SVM disaster recovery configuration.
- If the MetroCluster or SVM disaster recovery configuration already exists, ONTAP prevents you from creating a cluster-scoped FPolicy external engine with SSL authentication.

Complete the FPolicy external engine configuration worksheet

You can use this worksheet to record the values that you need during the FPolicy external engine configuration process. If a parameter value is required, you need to determine what value to use for those parameters before you configure the external engine.

Information for a basic external engine configuration

You should record whether you want to include each parameter setting in the external engine configuration and then record the value for the parameters that you want to include.

Type of information	Required	Include	Your values
Storage virtual machine (SVM) name	Yes	Yes	
Engine name	Yes	Yes	
Primary FPolicy servers	Yes	Yes	
Port number	Yes	Yes	
Secondary FPolicy servers	No		
External engine type	No		

SSL option for communication with external FPolicy server	Yes	Yes	
Certificate FQDN or custom common name	No		
Certificate serial number	No		
Certificate authority	No		

Information for advanced external engine parameters

To configure an external engine with advanced parameters, you must enter the configuration command while in advanced privilege mode.

Type of information	Required	Include	Your values
Timeout for canceling a request	No		
Timeout for aborting a request	No		
Interval for sending status requests	No		
Maximum outstanding requests on the FPolicy server	No		
Timeout for disconnecting a nonresponsive FPolicy server	No		
Interval for sending keep-alive messages to the FPolicy server	No		
Maximum reconnect attempts	No		
Receive buffer size	No		
Send buffer size	No		
Timeout for purging a session ID during reconnection	No		

Plan the FPolicy event configuration

Plan the FPolicy event configuration overview

Before you configure FPolicy events, you must understand what it means to create an

FPolicy event. You must determine which protocols you want the event to monitor, which events to monitor, and which event filters to use. This information helps you plan the values that you want to set.

What it means to create an FPolicy event

Creating the FPolicy event means defining information that the FPolicy process needs to determine what file access operations to monitor and for which of the monitored events notifications should be sent to the external FPolicy server. The FPolicy event configuration defines the following configuration information:

- · Storage virtual machine (SVM) name
- · Event name
- · Which protocols to monitor

FPolicy can monitor SMB, NFSv3, and NFSv4 file access operations.

· Which file operations to monitor

Not all file operations are valid for each protocol.

· Which file filters to configure

Only certain combinations of file operations and filters are valid. Each protocol has its own set of supported combinations.

· Whether to monitor volume mount and unmount operations

There is a dependency with three of the parameters (-protocol, -file-operations, -filters). The following combinations are valid for the three parameters:



- You can specify the -protocol and -file-operations parameters.
- · You can specify all three of the parameters.
- · You can specify none of the parameters.

What the FPolicy event configuration contains

You can use the following list of available FPolicy event configuration parameters to help you plan your configuration:

Type of information	Option
SVM	-vserver vserver_name
Specifies the SVM name that you want to associate with this FPolicy event.	
Each FPolicy configuration is defined within a single SVM. The external engine, policy event, policy scope, and policy that combine together to create an FPolicy policy configuration must all be associated with the same SVM.	

Event name

Specifies the name to assign to the FPolicy event. When you create the FPolicy policy you associate the FPolicy event with the policy using the event name.

-event-name event name

The name can be up to 256 characters long.



The name should be up to 200 characters long if configuring the event in a MetroCluster or SVM disaster recovery configuration.

The name can contain any combination of the following ASCII-range characters:

- a through z
- A through Z
- 0 through 9
- " _ ", "-", and "."

-protocol protocol

Protocol

Specifies which protocol to configure for the FPolicy event. The list for -protocol can include one of the following values:

- cifs
- nfsv3
- nfsv4



If you specify <code>-protocol</code>, then you must specify a valid value in the <code>-file-operations</code> parameter. As the protocol version changes, the valid values might change.

File operations

Specifies the list of file operations for the FPolicy event.

The event checks the operations specified in this list from all client requests using the protocol specified in the <code>-protocol</code> parameter. You can list one or more file operations by using a comma-delimited list. The list for <code>-file-operations</code> can include one or more of the following values:

- close for file close operations
- create for file create operations
- create-dir for directory create operations
- delete for file delete operations
- delete dir for directory delete operations
- getattr for get attribute operations
- link for link operations
- lookup for lookup operations
- open for file open operations
- read for file read operations
- write for file write operations
- rename for file rename operations
- rename dir for directory rename operations
- setattr for set attribute operations
- symlink for symbolic link operations



If you specify -file-operations, then you must specify a valid protocol in the -protocol parameter.

-file-operations
file_operations,...

Filters

-filters filter, ...

Specifies the list of filters for a given file operation for the specified protocol. The values in the <code>-filters</code> parameter are used to filter client requests. The list can include one or more of the following:



If you specify the -filters parameter, then you must also specify valid values for the -file-operations and -protocol parameters.

- monitor-ads option to filter the client request for alternate data stream.
- close-with-modification option to filter the client request for close with modification.
- close-without-modification option to filter the client request for close without modification.
- first-read option to filter the client request for first read.
- first-write option to filter the client request for first write.
- offline-bit option to filter the client request for offline bit set.

Setting this filter results in the FPolicy server receiving notification only when offline files are accessed.

• open-with-delete-intent option to filter the client request for open with delete intent.

Setting this filter results in the FPolicy server receiving notification only when an attempt is made to open a file with the intent to delete it. This is used by file systems when the <code>FILE_DELETE_ON_CLOSE</code> flag is specified.

 open-with-write-intent option to filter client request for open with write intent.

Setting this filter results in the FPolicy server receiving notification only when an attempt is made to open a file with the intent to write something in it.

• write-with-size-change option to filter the client request for write with size change.

Filters continued

-filters filter, ...

- setattr-with-owner-change option to filter the client setattr requests for changing owner of a file or a directory.
- setattr-with-group-change option to filter the client setattr requests for changing the group of a file or a directory.
- setattr-with-sacl-change option to filter the client setattr requests for changing the SACL on a file or a directory.

This filter is available only for the SMB and NFSv4 protocols.

• setattr-with-dacl-change option to filter the client setattr requests for changing the DACL on a file or a directory.

This filter is available only for the SMB and NFSv4 protocols.

- setattr-with-modify-time-change option to filter the client setattr requests for changing the modification time of a file or a directory.
- setattr-with-access-time-change option to filter the client setattr requests for changing the access time of a file or a directory.
- setattr-with-creation-time-change option to filter the client setattr requests for changing the creation time of a file or a directory.

This option is available only for the SMB protocol.

- setattr-with-mode-change option to filter the client setattr requests for changing the mode bits on a file or a directory.
- setattr-with-size-change option to filter the client setattr requests for changing the size of a file.
- setattr-with-allocation-size-change option to filter the client setattr requests for changing the allocation size of a file.

This option is available only for the SMB protocol.

 exclude-directory option to filter the client requests for directory operations.

When this filter is specified, the directory operations are not monitored.

Is volume operation required

Specifies whether monitoring is required for volume mount and unmount operations. The default is false.

-volume-operation {true |false}

-filters filter, ...

FPolicy access denied notifications

Beginning with ONTAP 9.13.1, users can receive notifications for failed file operations due to lack of permissions. These notifications are valuable for security, ransomware protection, and governance. Notifications will be generated for file operation failed due to lack of permission, which includes:

-monitor-fileop-failure
{true|false}

- Failures due to NTFS permissions.
- Failures due to Unix mode bits.
- · Failures due to NFSv4 ACLs.

Supported file operation and filter combinations that FPolicy can monitor for SMB

When you configure your FPolicy event, you need to be aware that only certain combinations of file operations and filters are supported for monitoring SMB file access operations.

The list of supported file operation and filter combinations for FPolicy monitoring of SMB file access events is provided in the following table:

Supported file operations	Supported filters		
close	monitor-ads, offline-bit, close-with-modification, close-without-modification, close-with-read, exclude-directory		
create	monitor-ads, offline-bit		
create_dir	Currently no filter is supported for this file operation.		
delete	monitor-ads, offline-bit		
delete_dir	Currently no filter is supported for this file operation.		
getattr	offline-bit, exclude-dir		
open	monitor-ads, offline-bit, open-with-delete-intent, open-with-write-intent, exclude-dir		
read	monitor-ads, offline-bit, first-read		
write	monitor-ads, offline-bit, first-write, write-with-size-change		
rename	monitor-ads, offline-bit		
rename_dir	Currently no filter is supported for this file operation.		

setattr	monitor-ads, offline-bit, setattr_with_owner_change, setattr_with_group_change, setattr_with_mode_change, setattr_with_sacl_change, setattr_with_dacl_change, setattr_with_modify_time_change, setattr_with_access_time_change, setattr_with_creation_time_change, setattr_with_size_change, setattr_with_allocation_size_change, exclude_directory
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Beginning with ONTAP 9.13.1, users can receive notifications for failed file operations due to lack of permissions. The list of supported access denied file operation and filter combinations for FPolicy monitoring of SMB file access events is provided in the following table:

Supported access denied file operation	Supported filters
open	NA

Supported file operation and filter combinations that FPolicy can monitor for NFSv3

When you configure your FPolicy event, you need to be aware that only certain combinations of file operations and filters are supported for monitoring NFSv3 file access operations.

The list of supported file operation and filter combinations for FPolicy monitoring of NFSv3 file access events is provided in the following table:

Supported file operations	Supported filters
create	offline-bit
create_dir	Currently no filter is supported for this file operation.
delete	offline-bit
delete_dir	Currently no filter is supported for this file operation.
link	offline-bit
lookup	offline-bit, exclude-dir
read	offline-bit, first-read
write	offline-bit, first-write, write-with-size-change
rename	offline-bit
rename_dir	Currently no filter is supported for this file operation.

setattr	offline-bit, setattr_with_owner_change, setattr_with_group_change, setattr_with_mode_change, setattr_with_modify_time_change, setattr_with_access_time_change, setattr_with_size_change, exclude_directory
symlink	offline-bit

Beginning with ONTAP 9.13.1, users can receive notifications for failed file operations due to lack of permissions. The list of supported access denied file operation and filter combinations for FPolicy monitoring of NFSv3 file access events is provided in the following table:

Supported access denied file operation	Supported filters
access	NA
create	NA
create_dir	NA
delete	NA
delete_dir	NA
link	NA
read	NA
rename	NA
rename_dir	NA
setattr	NA
write	NA

Supported file operation and filter combinations that FPolicy can monitor for NFSv4

When you configure your FPolicy event, you need to be aware that only certain combinations of file operations and filters are supported for monitoring NFSv4 file access operations.

The list of supported file operation and filter combinations for FPolicy monitoring of NFSv4 file access events is provided in the following table:

Supported file operations	Supported filters
close	offline-bit, exclude-directory
create	offline-bit
create_dir	Currently no filter is supported for this file operation.
delete	offline-bit
delete_dir	Currently no filter is supported for this file operation.
getattr	offline-bit, exclude-directory
link	offline-bit
lookup	offline-bit, exclude-directory
open	offline-bit, exclude-directory
read	offline-bit, first-read
write	offline-bit, first-write, write-with-size-change
rename	offline-bit
rename_dir	Currently no filter is supported for this file operation.
setattr	offline-bit, setattr_with_owner_change, setattr_with_group_change, setattr_with_mode_change, setattr_with_sacl_change, setattr_with_dacl_change, setattr_with_modify_time_change, setattr_with_access_time_change, setattr_with_size_change, exclude_directory
symlink	offline-bit

Beginning with ONTAP 9.13.1, users can receive notifications for failed file operations due to lack of permissions. The list of supported access denied file operation and filter combinations for FPolicy monitoring of NFSv4 file access events is provided in the following table:

Supported access denied file operation	Supported filters
access	NA
create	NA

create_dir	NA
delete	NA
delete_dir	NA
link	NA
open	NA
read	NA
rename	NA
rename_dir	NA
setattr	NA
write	NA

Complete the FPolicy event configuration worksheet

You can use this worksheet to record the values that you need during the FPolicy event configuration process. If a parameter value is required, you need to determine what value to use for those parameters before you configure the FPolicy event.

You should record whether you want to include each parameter setting in the FPolicy event configuration and then record the value for the parameters that you want to include.

Type of information	Required	Include	Your values
Storage virtual machine (SVM) name	Yes	Yes	
Event name	Yes	Yes	
Protocol	No		
File operations	No		
Filters	No		
Volume operation	No		
Access denied events (support beginning with ONTAP 9.13)	No		

Plan the FPolicy policy configuration

Plan the FPolicy policy configuration overview

Before you configure the FPolicy policy, you must understand which parameters are required when creating the policy as well as why you might want to configure certain optional parameters. This information helps you to determine which values to set for each parameter.

When creating an FPolicy policy you associate the policy with the following:

- The storage virtual machine (SVM)
- · One or more FPolicy events
- An FPolicy external engine

You can also configure several optional policy settings.

What the FPolicy policy configuration contains

You can use the following list of available FPolicy policy required and optional parameters to help you plan your configuration:

Type of information	Option	Required	Default
SVM name Specifies the name of the SVM on which you want to create an FPolicy policy.	-vserver vserver_name	Yes	None

The name long. The name the follow • a thro • A thro • 0 thro	the name of the FPolicy policy. e can be up to 256 characters The name should be up to 200 characters long if configuring the policy in a MetroCluster or SVM disaster recovery configuration. e can contain any combination of ing ASCII-range characters: bugh z	-policy-name policy_name	Yes	None
You control event An event	a comma-delimited list of events ate with the FPolicy policy. an associate more than one to a policy. The tis specific to a protocol. In the tis specific to a protocol. I	-events event_name,	Yes	None

 External engine name Specifies the name of the external engine to associate with the FPolicy policy. An external engine contains information required by the node to send notifications to an FPolicy server. You can configure FPolicy to use the ONTAP native external engine for simple file blocking or to use an external engine that is configured to use external FPolicy servers (FPolicy servers) for more sophisticated file blocking and file management. If you want to use the native external engine, you can either not specify a value for this parameter or you can specify native as the value. If you want to use FPolicy servers, the configuration for the external engine must already exist. 	-engine engine_name	Yes (unless the policy uses the internal ONTAP native engine)	native
Is mandatory screening required Specifies whether mandatory file access screening is required. • The mandatory screening setting determines what action is taken on a file access event in a case when all primary and secondary servers are down or no response is received from the FPolicy servers within a given timeout period. • When set to true, file access events are denied. • When set to false, file access events are allowed.	-is-mandatory {true false}	No	true

Allow privileged access Specifies whether you want the FPolicy server to have privileged access to the monitored files and folders by using a privileged data connection. If configured, FPolicy servers can access files from the root of the SVM containing the monitored data using the privileged data connection. For privileged data access, SMB must be licensed on the cluster and all the data LIFs used to connect to the FPolicy servers must be configured to have cifs as one of the allowed protocols. If you want to configure the policy to allow privileged access, you must also specify the user name for the account that you want the FPolicy server to use for privileged access.	-allow -privileged -access {yes no}	No (unless passthrough-read is enabled)	no
Privileged user name Specifies the user name of the account the FPolicy servers use for privileged data access. • The value for this parameter should use the "domain\user name" format. • If -allow-privileged-access is set to no, any value set for this parameter is ignored.	-privileged -user-name user_name	No (unless privileged access is enabled)	None

Allow passthrough-read Specifies whether the FPolicy servers can provide passthrough-read services for files	-is-passthrough -read-enabled {true false}	No	false
that have been archived to secondary storage (offline files) by the FPolicy servers:			
 Passthrough-read is a way to read data for offline files without restoring the data to the primary storage. 			
Passthrough-read reduces response latencies because there is no need to recall files back to primary storage before responding to the read request. Additionally, passthrough-read optimizes storage efficiency by eliminating the need to consume primary storage space with files that are recalled solely to satisfy read requests.			
 When enabled, the FPolicy servers provide the data for the file over a separate privileged data channel opened specifically for passthrough- reads. 			
 If you want to configure passthrough- read, the policy must also be configured to allow privileged access. 			

Requirement for FPolicy scope configurations if the FPolicy policy uses the native engine

If you configure the FPolicy policy to use the native engine, there is a specific requirement for how you define the FPolicy scope configured for the policy.

The FPolicy scope defines the boundaries on which the FPolicy policy applies, for example whether the FPolicy applies to specified volumes or shares. There are a number of parameters that further restrict the scope to which the FPolicy policy applies. One of these parameters, -is-file-extension-check-on-directories-enabled, specifies whether to check file extensions on directories. The default value is false, which means that file extensions on directories are not checked.

When an FPolicy policy that uses the native engine is enabled on a share or volume and the <code>-is-file</code> <code>-extension-check-on-directories-enabled</code> parameter is set to <code>false</code> for the scope of the policy, directory access is denied. With this configuration, because the file extensions are not checked for directories, any directory operation is denied if it falls under the scope of the policy.

To ensure that directory access succeeds when using the native engine, you must set the -is-file -extension-check-on-directories-enabled parameter to true when creating the scope.

With this parameter set to true, extension checks happen for directory operations and the decision whether to allow or deny access is taken based on the extensions included or excluded in the FPolicy scope configuration.

Complete the FPolicy policy worksheet

You can use this worksheet to record the values that you need during the FPolicy policy configuration process. You should record whether you want to include each parameter setting in the FPolicy policy configuration and then record the value for the parameters that you want to include.

Type of information	Include	Your values
Storage virtual machine (SVM) name	Yes	
Policy name	Yes	
Event names	Yes	
External engine name		
Is mandatory screening required?		
Allow privileged access		
Privileged user name		
Is passthrough-read enabled?		

Plan the FPolicy scope configuration

Plan the FPolicy scope configuration overview

Before you configure the FPolicy scope, you must understand what it means to create a scope. You must understand what the scope configuration contains. You also need to understand what the scope rules of precedence are. This information can help you plan the values that you want to set.

What it means to create an FPolicy scope

Creating the FPolicy scope means defining the boundaries on which the FPolicy policy applies. The storage virtual machine (SVM) is the basic boundary. When you create a scope for an FPolicy policy, you must define the FPolicy policy to which it will apply, and you must designate to which SVM you want to apply the scope.

There are a number of parameters that further restrict the scope within the specified SVM. You can restrict the scope by specifying what to include in the scope or by specifying what to exclude from the scope. After you apply a scope to an enabled policy, policy event checks get applied to the scope defined by this command.

Notifications are generated for file access events where matches are found in the "include" options.

Notifications are not generated for file access events where matches are found in the "exclude" options.

The FPolicy scope configuration defines the following configuration information:

- SVM name
- · Policy name
- The shares to include or exclude from what gets monitored
- · The export policies to include or exclude from what gets monitored
- · The volumes to include or exclude from what gets monitored
- · The file extensions to include or exclude from what gets monitored
- · Whether to do file extension checks on directory objects



There are special considerations for the scope for a cluster FPolicy policy. The cluster FPolicy policy is a policy that the cluster administrator creates for the admin SVM. If the cluster administrator also creates the scope for that cluster FPolicy policy, the SVM administrator cannot create a scope for that same policy. However, if the cluster administrator does not create a scope for the cluster FPolicy policy, then any SVM administrator can create the scope for that cluster policy. If the SVM administrator creates a scope for that cluster FPolicy policy, the cluster administrator cannot subsequently create a cluster scope for that same cluster policy. This is because the cluster administrator cannot override the scope for the same cluster policy.

What the scope rules of precedence are

The following rules of precedence apply to scope configurations:

- When a share is included in the -shares-to-include parameter and the parent volume of the share is included in the -volumes-to-exclude parameter, -volumes-to-exclude has precedence over -shares-to-include.
- When an export policy is included in the <code>-export-policies-to-include</code> parameter and the parent volume of the export policy is included in the <code>-volumes-to-exclude</code> parameter, <code>-volumes-to-exclude</code> has precedence over <code>-export-policies-to-include</code>.
- An administrator can specify both -file-extensions-to-include and -file-extensions-to-exclude lists.

The -file-extensions-to-exclude parameter is checked before the -file-extensions-to-include parameter is checked.

What the FPolicy scope configuration contains

You can use the following list of available FPolicy scope configuration parameters to help you plan your configuration:



When configuring what shares, export policies, volumes, and file extensions to include or exclude from the scope, the include and exclude parameters can include metacharacters such as "?" and "*". The use of regular expressions is not supported.

Type of information	Option
	•

Specifies the name of the FPolicy policy to which you want to attach the scope. The FPolicy policy must already exist. Shares to include Specifies a comma-delimited list of shares to monitor for the FPolicy policy to which the scope is applied. Shares to exclude Specifies a comma-delimited list of shares to exclude from monitoring for the FPolicy policy to which the scope is applied. Volumes to include Specifies a comma-delimited list of volumes to monitor for the FPolicy policy to which the scope is applied. Volumes to include Specifies a comma-delimited list of volumes to monitor for the FPolicy policy to which the scope is applied.	SVM	-vserver vserver_name
engine, policy event, policy scope, and policy that combine together to create an FPolicy policy configuration must all be associated with the same SVM. Policy name Specifies the name of the FPolicy policy to which you want to attach the scope. The FPolicy policy must already exist. Shares to include Specifies a comma-delimited list of shares to monitor for the FPolicy policy to which the scope is applied. Shares to exclude Specifies a comma-delimited list of shares to exclude from monitoring for the FPolicy policy to which the scope is applied. Volumes to include Specifies a comma-delimited list of volumes to monitor for the FPolicy policy to which the scope is applied. Volumes to include Specifies a comma-delimited list of volumes to monitor for the FPolicy policy to which the scope is applied.	Specifies the SVM name on which you want to create an FPolicy scope.	
Specifies the name of the FPolicy policy to which you want to attach the scope. The FPolicy policy must already exist. Shares to include Specifies a comma-delimited list of shares to monitor for the FPolicy policy to which the scope is applied. Shares to exclude Specifies a comma-delimited list of shares to exclude from monitoring for the FPolicy policy to which the scope is applied. Volumes to include Specifies a comma-delimited list of volumes to monitor for the FPolicy policy to which the scope is applied. Volumes to include Specifies a comma-delimited list of volumes to monitor for the FPolicy policy to which the scope is applied.	engine, policy event, policy scope, and policy that combine together to create an FPolicy policy configuration must all be associated with the same	
Shares to include Specifies a comma-delimited list of shares to monitor for the FPolicy policy to which the scope is applied. Shares to exclude Specifies a comma-delimited list of shares to exclude from monitoring for the FPolicy policy to which the scope is applied. Volumes to include Specifies a comma-delimited list of volumes to monitor for the FPolicy policy to which the scope is applied. Volumes to include Specifies a comma-delimited list of volumes to monitor for the FPolicy policy to which the scope is applied.	Policy name	-policy-name policy_name
Specifies a comma-delimited list of shares to monitor for the FPolicy policy to which the scope is applied. Shares to exclude Specifies a comma-delimited list of shares to exclude from monitoring for the FPolicy policy to which the scope is applied. Volumes to include Specifies a comma-delimited list of volumes to monitor for the FPolicy policy to which the scope is applied. -volumes-to-include volume_name,		
Specifies a comma-delimited list of shares to monitor for the FPolicy policy to which the scope is applied. Shares to exclude Specifies a comma-delimited list of shares to exclude from monitoring for the FPolicy policy to which the scope is applied. Volumes to include Specifies a comma-delimited list of volumes to monitor for the FPolicy policy to which the scope is applied. -volumes-to-include volume_name,	Shares to include	
Specifies a comma-delimited list of shares to exclude from monitoring for the FPolicy policy to which the scope is applied. Volumes to include Specifies a comma-delimited list of volumes to monitor for the FPolicy policy to which the scope is applied. -volumes-to-include volume_name,		Share_hame,
Specifies a comma-delimited list of shares to exclude from monitoring for the FPolicy policy to which the scope is applied. Volumes to include Specifies a comma-delimited list of volumes to monitor for the FPolicy policy to which the scope is applied. -volumes-to-include volume_name,	Shares to exclude	
for the FPolicy policy to which the scope is applied. volume_name,	· ·	Share_hame,
Volumes to exclude	· ·	
volumes to cholude	Volumes to exclude	-volumes-to-exclude
Specifies a comma-delimited list of volumes to exclude from monitoring for the FPolicy policy to which the scope is applied.		volume_name,
Export policies to include -export-policies-to	Export policies to include	
Specifies a comma-delimited list of export policies to monitor for the FPolicy policy to which the scope is applied.		
Export policies to exclude -export-policies-to	Export policies to exclude	
Specifies a comma-delimited list of export policies to exclude from monitoring for the FPolicy policy to which the scope is applied.	· ·	
File extensions to include -file-extensions-to	File extensions to include	
Specifies a comma-delimited list of file extensions to monitor for the FPolicy policy to which the scope is applied.	· ·	

File extension to exclude Specifies a comma-delimited list of file extensions to exclude from monitoring for the FPolicy policy to which the scope is applied.	-file-extensions-to -exclude file_extensions,
Is file extension check on directory enabled? Specifies whether the file name extension checks apply to directory objects as well. If this parameter is set to true, the directory objects are subjected to the same extension checks as regular files. If this parameter is set to false, the directory names are not matched for extensions and notifications are sent for directories even if their name extensions do not match.	-is-file-extension -check-on-directories -enabled {true false }
If the FPolicy policy to which the scope is assigned is configured to use the native engine, this parameter must be set to true.	

Complete the FPolicy scope worksheet

You can use this worksheet to record the values that you need during the FPolicy scope configuration process. If a parameter value is required, you need to determine what value to use for those parameters before you configure the FPolicy scope.

You should record whether you want to include each parameter setting in the FPolicy scope configuration and then record the value for the parameters that you want to include.

Type of information	Required	Include	Your values
Storage virtual machine (SVM) name	Yes	Yes	
Policy name	Yes	Yes	
Shares to include	No		
Shares to exclude	No		
Volumes to include	No		
Volumes to exclude	No		
Export policies to include	No		
Export policies to exclude	No		
File extensions to include	No		
File extension to exclude	No		

Is file extension check on directory	No	
enabled?		

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