Red Hat Enterprise Linux 8

Administration and configuration tasks using System Roles in RHEL

Applying RHEL System Roles using Red Hat Ansible Automation Platform playbooks to perform system administration tasks
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Abstract

This document describes configuring system roles using Ansible on Red Hat Enterprise Linux 8. The title focuses on: the RHEL System Roles are a collection of Ansible roles, modules, and playbooks that provide a stable and consistent configuration interface to manage and configure Red Hat Enterprise Linux. They are designed to be forward compatible with multiple major release versions of Red Hat Enterprise Linux 8.
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MAKING OPEN SOURCE MORE INCLUSIVE

Red Hat is committed to replacing problematic language in our code, documentation, and web properties. We are beginning with these four terms: master, slave, blacklist, and whitelist. Because of the enormity of this endeavor, these changes will be implemented gradually over several upcoming releases. For more details, see our CTO Chris Wright’s message.
PROVIDING FEEDBACK ON RED HAT DOCUMENTATION

We appreciate your input on our documentation. Please let us know how we could make it better. To do so:

- For simple comments on specific passages:
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CHAPTER 1. GETTING STARTED WITH RHEL SYSTEM ROLES

This section explains what RHEL System Roles are. Additionally, it describes how to apply a particular role through an Ansible playbook to perform various system administration tasks.

1.1. INTRODUCTION TO RHEL SYSTEM ROLES

RHEL System Roles is a collection of Ansible roles and modules. RHEL System Roles provide a configuration interface to remotely manage multiple RHEL systems. The interface enables managing system configurations across multiple versions of RHEL, as well as adopting new major releases.

On Red Hat Enterprise Linux 8, the interface currently consists of the following roles:

- kdump
- network
- selinux
- storage
- certificate
- kernel_settings
- logging
- metrics
- nbde_client and nbde_server
- timesync
- tlog

All these roles are provided by the `rhel-system-roles` package available in the `AppStream` repository.

Additional resources

- For RHEL System Roles overview, see the Red Hat Enterprise Linux (RHEL) System Roles Red Hat Knowledgebase article.

- For information on a particular role, see the documentation under the `/usr/share/doc/rhel-system-roles` directory. This documentation is installed automatically with the `rhel-system-roles` package.

- [Introduction to the SELinux system role](#)
- [Introduction to the storage role](#)

1.2. RHEL SYSTEM ROLES TERMINOLOGY

You can find the following terms across this documentation:

System Roles terminology
Ansible playbook

Playbooks are Ansible’s configuration, deployment, and orchestration language. They can describe a policy you want your remote systems to enforce, or a set of steps in a general IT process.

Control node

Any machine with Ansible installed. You can run commands and playbooks, invoking /usr/bin/ansible or /usr/bin/ansible-playbook, from any control node. You can use any computer that has Python installed on it as a control node – laptops, shared desktops, and servers can all run Ansible. However, you cannot use a Windows machine as a control node. You can have multiple control nodes.

Inventory

A list of managed nodes. An inventory file is also sometimes called a “hostfile”. Your inventory can specify information like IP address for each managed node. An inventory can also organize managed nodes, creating and nesting groups for easier scaling. To learn more about inventory, see the Working with Inventory section.

Managed nodes

The network devices, servers, or both that you manage with Ansible. Managed nodes are also sometimes called “hosts”. Ansible is not installed on managed nodes.

1.3. APPLYING A ROLE

The following procedure describes how to apply a particular role.

Prerequisites

- The rhel-system-roles package is installed on the system that you want to use as a control node:

  ```bash
  # yum install rhel-system-roles
  ```

- The Ansible Engine repository is enabled, and the ansible package is installed on the system that you want to use as a control node. You need the ansible package to run playbooks that use RHEL System Roles.

  - If you do not have a Red Hat Ansible Engine Subscription, you can use a limited supported version of Red Hat Ansible Engine provided with your Red Hat Enterprise Linux subscription. In this case, follow these steps:

    1. Enable the RHEL Ansible Engine repository:

       ```bash
       # subscription-manager refresh
       # subscription-manager repos --enable ansible-2-for-rhel-8-x86_64-rpms
       ```

    2. Install Ansible Engine:

       ```bash
       # yum install ansible
       ```

  - If you have a Red Hat Ansible Engine Subscription, follow the procedure described in How do I Download and Install Red Hat Ansible Engine?.

- You are able to create an Ansible playbook.

    Playbooks represent Ansible’s configuration, deployment, and orchestration language. By using playbooks, you can declare and manage configurations of remote machines, deploy multiple remote machines or orchestrate steps of any manual ordered process.
A playbook is a list of one or more plays. Every play can include Ansible variables, tasks, or roles. Playbooks are human-readable, and they are expressed in the YAML format. For more information about playbooks, see Ansible documentation.

Procedure

1. Create an Ansible playbook including the required role. The following example shows how to use roles through the roles: option for a given play:

```yaml
---
- hosts: webservers
  roles:
    - rhel-system-roles.network
    - rhel-system-roles.timesync
```

For more information on using roles in playbooks, see Ansible documentation.

See Ansible examples for example playbooks.

NOTE

Every role includes a README file, which documents how to use the role and supported parameter values. You can also find an example playbook for a particular role under the documentation directory of the role. Such documentation directory is provided by default with the rhel-system-roles package, and can be found in the following location:

```
/usr/share/doc/rhel-system-roles/SUBSYSTEM/
```

Replace SUBSYSTEM with the name of the required role, such as selinux, kdump, network, timesync, or storage.

2. Verify the playbook syntax:

```
# ansible-playbook --syntax-check name.of.the.playbook
```

The ansible-playbook command offers a --syntax-check option that you can use to verify the syntax of a playbook.

3. Execute the playbook on targeted hosts by running the ansible-playbook command:

```
# ansible-playbook -i name.of.the.inventory name.of.the.playbook
```

An inventory is a list of systems against which Ansible works. For more information on how to create and inventory, and how to work with it, see Ansible documentation.

If you do not have an inventory, you can create it at the time of running ansible-playbook:

If you have only one targeted host against which you want to run the playbook, use:

```
# ansible-playbook -i host1, name.of.the.playbook
```
If you have multiple targeted hosts against which you want to run the playbook, use:

```bash
# ansible-playbook -i host1,host2,....,hostn name.of.the.playbook
```

**Additional resources**

- For more detailed information on using the `ansible-playbook` command, see the `ansible-playbook` man page.

**1.4. ADDITIONAL RESOURCES**

- For RHEL System Roles overview, see the [Red Hat Enterprise Linux (RHEL) System Roles Red Hat Knowledgebase article](#).
- Managing local storage using RHEL System Roles
- Deploying the same SELinux configuration on multiple systems using RHEL System Roles
CHAPTER 2. INSTALLING RHEL SYSTEM ROLES

Before starting to use System Roles, you must install it in your system.

2.1. INSTALLING RHEL SYSTEM ROLES IN YOUR SYSTEM

This paragraph is the procedure module introduction: a short description of the procedure.

Prerequisites

- You have a Red Hat Ansible Engine Subscription. See the procedure How do I Download and Install Red Hat Ansible Engine?
- You have Ansible packages installed in the system you want to use as a control node:

Procedure

1. Install the `rhel-system-roles` package on the system that you want to use as a control node:

   ```bash
   # yum install rhel-system-roles
   ```

   If you do not have a Red Hat Ansible Engine Subscription, you can use a limited supported version of Red Hat Ansible Engine provided with your Red Hat Enterprise Linux subscription. In this case, follow these steps:

   a. Enable the RHEL Ansible Engine repository:

      ```bash
      # subscription-manager refresh
      # subscription-manager repos --enable ansible-2-for-rhel-8-x86_64-rpms
      ```

   b. Install Ansible Engine:

      ```bash
      # yum install ansible
      ```

   As a result, you are able to create an Ansible playbook.

Additional resources

- For RHEL System Roles overview, see the Red Hat Enterprise Linux (RHEL) System Roles
- For more detailed information on using the ansible-playbook command, see the ansible-playbook man page.
CHAPTER 3. USING ANSIBLE ROLES TO PERMANENTLY CONFIGURE KERNEL PARAMETERS

As an experienced user with good knowledge of Red Hat Ansible Engine, you can use the kernel_settings role to configure kernel parameters on multiple clients at once. This solution:

- Provides a friendly interface with efficient input setting.
- Keeps all intended kernel parameters in one place.

After you run the kernel_settings role from the control machine, the kernel parameters are applied to the managed systems immediately and persist across reboots.

3.1. INTRODUCTION TO THE KERNEL SETTINGS ROLE

RHEL System Roles is a collection of roles and modules from Ansible Automation Platform that provide a consistent configuration interface to remotely manage multiple systems.

RHEL System Roles were introduced for automated configurations of the kernel using the kernel_settings system role. The rhel-system-roles package contains this system role, and also the reference documentation.

To apply the kernel parameters on one or more systems in an automated fashion, use the kernel_settings role with one or more of its role variables of your choice in a playbook. A playbook is a list of one or more plays that are human-readable, and are written in the YAML format.

You can use an inventory file to define a set of systems that you want Ansible Engine to configure according to the playbook.

With the kernel_settings role you can configure:

- The kernel parameters using the kernel_settings_sysctl role variable
- Various kernel subsystems, hardware devices, and device drivers using the kernel_settings_sysfs role variable
- The CPU affinity for the systemd service manager and processes it forks using the kernel_settings_systemd_cpu_affinity role variable
- The kernel memory subsystem transparent hugepages using the kernel_settings_transparent_hugepages and kernel_settings_transparent_hugepages_defrag role variables

Additional resources

- For a detailed reference on kernel_settings role variables and for the example playbooks, install the rhel-system-roles package, and see the README.md and README.html files in the /usr/share/doc/rhel-system-roles/kernel_settings/ directory.
- For more information about playbooks, see Working with playbooks in Ansible documentation.
- For more information on creating and using inventories, see How to build your inventory in Ansible documentation.
3.2. APPLYING SELECTED KERNEL PARAMETERS USING THE KERNEL SETTINGS ROLE

Follow these steps to prepare and apply an Ansible playbook to remotely configure kernel parameters with persisting effect on multiple managed operating systems.

Prerequisites

- Your Red Hat Ansible Engine subscription is attached to the system, also called control machine, from which you want to run the kernel_settings role. See the How do I download and install Red Hat Ansible Engine article for more information.

- Ansible Engine repository is enabled on the control machine.

- Ansible Engine is installed on the control machine.

NOTE

You do not need to have Ansible Engine installed on the systems, also called managed hosts, where you want to configure the kernel parameters.

- The rhel-system-roles package is installed on the control machine.

- An inventory of managed hosts is present on the control machine and Ansible Engine is able to connect to them.

Procedure

1. Optionally, review the inventory file for illustration purposes:

```bash
# cat /home/jdoe/<ansible_project_name>/inventory
[testingservers]
pdoe@192.168.122.98
fdoe@192.168.122.226

[db-servers]
db1.example.com
db2.example.com

[webservers]
web1.example.com
web2.example.com
192.0.2.42
```

The file defines the [testingservers] group and other groups. It allows you to run Ansible Engine more effectively against a specific collection of systems.

2. Create a configuration file to set defaults and privilege escalation for Ansible Engine operations.

   a. Create a new YAML file and open it in a text editor, for example:

```bash
# vi /home/jdoe/<ansible_project_name>/ansible.cfg
```

   b. Insert the following content into the file:
The [defaults] section specifies a path to the inventory file of managed hosts. The [privilege_escalation] section defines that user privileges be shifted to root on the specified managed hosts. This is necessary for successful configuration of kernel parameters. When Ansible playbook is run, you will be prompted for user password. The user automatically switches to root by means of sudo after connecting to a managed host.

3. Create an Ansible playbook that uses the kernel_settings role.

a. Create a new YAML file and open it in a text editor, for example:

```yaml
# vi /home/jdoe/<ansible_project_name>/kernel_roles.yml
```

This file represents a playbook and usually contains an ordered list of tasks, also called plays, that are run against specific managed hosts selected from your inventory file.

b. Insert the following content into the file:

```yaml
---
- name: Configure kernel settings
  hosts: testingservers

  vars:
    kernel_settings_sysctl:
      - name: fs.file-max
        value: 400000
      - name: kernel.threads-max
        value: 65536
    kernel_settings_sysfs:
      - name: /sys/class/net/lo/mtu
        value: 65000
      - name: /sys/class/net/lo/mtu
        value: 65000
    kernel_settings_transparent_hugepages:
      value: madvise

  roles:
    - linux-system-roles.kernel_settings
```

The name key is optional. It associates an arbitrary string with the play as a label and identifies what the play is for. The hosts key in the play specifies the hosts against which the play is run. The value or values for this key can be provided as individual names of managed hosts or as groups of hosts as defined in the inventory file.

The vars section represents a list of variables containing selected kernel parameter names and values to which they have to be set.

The roles key specifies what system role is going to configure the parameters and values mentioned in the vars section.
NOTE

You can modify the kernel parameters and their values in the playbook to fit your needs.

4. Optionally, verify that the syntax in your play is correct.

```bash
# ansible-playbook --syntax-check kernel-roles.yml
playbook: kernel-roles.yml
```

This example shows the successful verification of a playbook.

5. Execute your playbook.

```bash
# ansible-playbook kernel-roles.yml
BECOME password:
```

PLAY [Configure kernel settings] ... PLAY RECAP **

```
fdoe@192.168.122.226   : ok=10  changed=4  unreachable=0  failed=0  skipped=6
rescued=0  ignored=0
pdoe@192.168.122.98   : ok=10  changed=4  unreachable=0  failed=0  skipped=6
rescued=0  ignored=0
```

Before Ansible Engine runs your playbook, you are going to be prompted for your password and so that a user on managed hosts can be switched to root, which is necessary for configuring kernel parameters.

The recap section shows that the play finished successfully (failed=0) for all managed hosts, and that 4 kernel parameters have been applied (changed=4).

6. Restart your managed hosts and check the affected kernel parameters to verify that the changes have been applied and persist across reboots.

Additional resources

- For more information about RHEL System Roles, see Getting started with RHEL System Roles.

- For more information about all currently supported variables in kernel_settings, see README.html and README.md files in the /usr/share/doc/rhel-system-roles/kernel_settings/ directory.

- For more details about Ansible inventories, see Working with Inventory in Ansible documentation.

- For more details about Ansible configuration files, see Configuring Ansible in Ansible documentation.

- For more details about Ansible playbooks, see Working With Playbooks in Ansible documentation.

- For more details about Ansible variables, see Using Variables in Ansible documentation.

- For more details about Ansible roles, see Roles in Ansible documentation.
CHAPTER 4. USING SYSTEM ROLES TO CONFIGURE NETWORK CONNECTIONS

The network system role on RHEL enables administrators to automate network-related configuration and management tasks using Ansible.

4.1. CONFIGURING A STATIC ETHERNET CONNECTION USING RHEL SYSTEM ROLES

This procedure describes how to use RHEL System roles to remotely add an Ethernet connection for the enp7s0 interface with the following settings by running an Ansible playbook:

- A static IPv4 address - 192.0.2.1 with a /24 subnet mask
- A static IPv6 address - 2001:db8:1::1 with a /64 subnet mask
- An IPv4 default gateway - 192.0.2.254
- An IPv6 default gateway - 2001:db8:1::ffe
- An IPv4 DNS server - 192.0.2.200
- An IPv6 DNS server - 2001:db8:1::ffbb
- A DNS search domain - example.com

Run this procedure on the Ansible control node.

Prerequisites

- The ansible and rhel-system-roles packages are installed on the control node.
- If you use a different remote user than root when you run the playbook, this user has appropriate sudo permissions on the managed node.
- The host uses NetworkManager to configure the network.

Procedure

1. If the host on which you want to execute the instructions in the playbook is not yet inventoried, add the IP or name of this host to the /etc/ansible/hosts Ansible inventory file:

```
node.example.com
```

2. Create the ~/ethernet-static-IP.yml playbook with the following content:

```yaml
---
- name: Configure an Ethernet connection with static IP
  hosts: node.example.com
  become: true
  tasks:
  - include_role:
      name: linux-system-roles.network
```
vars:
  network_connections:
    - name: enp7s0
      type: ethernet
      autoconnect: yes
      ip:
        address:
          - 192.0.2.1/24
          - 2001:db8:1::1/64
        gateway4: 192.0.2.254
        gateway6: 2001:db8:1::ffe
      dns:
        - 192.0.2.200
        - 2001:db8:1::ffbb
      dns_search:
        - example.com
      state: up

3. Run the playbook:

   - To connect as root user to the managed host, enter:

     ```
     # ansible-playbook -u root ~/ethernet-static-IP.yml
     ```

   - To connect as a user to the managed host, enter:

     ```
     # ansible-playbook -u user_name --ask-become-pass ~/ethernet-static-IP.yml
     ```

     The `--ask-become-pass` option makes sure that the `ansible-playbook` command prompts for the `sudo` password of the user defined in the `-u user_name` option.

     If you do not specify the `-u user_name` option, `ansible-playbook` connects to the managed host as the user that is currently logged in to the control node.

Additional resources

   - For details about the parameters used in `network_connections` and for additional information about the network System Role, see the `/usr/share/ansible/roles/rhel-system-roles/network/README.md` file.

   - For details about the `ansible-playbook` command, see the `ansible-playbook(1)` man page.

### 4.2. CONFIGURING A DYNAMIC ETHERNET CONNECTION USING RHEL SYSTEM ROLES

This procedure describes how to use RHEL System Roles to remotely add a dynamic Ethernet connection for the `enp7s0` interface by running an Ansible playbook. With this setting, the network connection requests the IP settings for this connection from a DHCP server. Run this procedure on the Ansible control node.

Prerequisites

   - A DHCP server is available in the network.
The `ansible` and `rhel-system-roles` packages are installed on the control node.

If you use a different remote user than `root` when you run the playbook, this user has appropriate `sudo` permissions on the managed node.

The host uses NetworkManager to configure the network.

Procedure

1. If the host on which you want to execute the instructions in the playbook is not yet inventoried, add the IP or name of this host to the `/etc/ansible/hosts` Ansible inventory file:

   ```
   node.example.com
   ```

2. Create the `~/ethernet-dynamic-IP.yml` playbook with the following content:

   ```yaml
   ---
   - name: Configure an Ethernet connection with dynamic IP
     hosts: node.example.com
     become: true
     tasks:
     - include_role:
         name: linux-system-roles.network
     vars:
       network_connections:
         - name: enp7s0
           type: ethernet
           autoconnect: yes
           ip:
             dhcp4: yes
             auto6: yes
           state: up
   ```

3. Run the playbook:

   - To connect as `root` user to the managed host, enter:
     ```
     # ansible-playbook -u root ~/ethernet-dynamic-IP.yml
     ```
   - To connect as a user to the managed host, enter:
     ```
     # ansible-playbook -u user_name --ask-become-pass ~/ethernet-dynamic-IP.yml
     ```

     The `--ask-become-pass` option makes sure that `ansible-playbook` command prompts for the `sudo` password of the user defined in the `-u user_name` option.

     If you do not specify the `-u user_name` option, `ansible-playbook` connects to the managed host as the user that is currently logged in to the control node.

Additional resources

- For details about the parameters used in `network_connections` and for additional information about the `network` System Role, see the `/usr/share/ansible/roles/rhel-system-roles.network/README.md` file.
4.3. CONFIGURING VLAN TAGGING USING SYSTEM ROLES

You can use the networking RHEL System Role to configure VLAN tagging. This procedure describes how to add an Ethernet connection and a VLAN with ID 10 that uses this Ethernet connection. As the parent device, the VLAN connection contains the IP, default gateway, and DNS configurations.

Depending on your environment, adjust the play accordingly. For example:

- To use the VLAN as a port in other connections, such as a bond, omit the ip attribute, and set the IP configuration in the parent configuration.
- To use team, bridge, or bond devices in the VLAN, adapt the interface_name and type attributes of the ports you use in the VLAN.

Prerequisites

- The ansible and rhel-system-roles packages are installed on the control node.
- If you use a different remote user than root when you run the playbook, this user has appropriate sudo permissions on the managed node.

Procedure

1. If the host on which you want to execute the instructions in the playbook is not yet inventoried, add the IP or name of this host to the /etc/ansible/hosts Ansible inventory file:

```
node.example.com
```

2. Create the ~/vlan-ethernet.yml playbook with the following content:

```yaml
---
- name: Configure a VLAN that uses an Ethernet connection
  hosts: node.example.com
  become: true
  tasks:
  - include_role:
    name: linux-system-roles.network
      vars:
        network_connections:
          # Add an Ethernet profile for the underlying device of the VLAN
          - name: enp1s0
            type: ethernet
            interface_name: enp1s0
            autoconnect: yes
            state: up
            ip:
              dhcp4: no
              auto6: no
          # Define the VLAN profile
          - name: vlan10
```
type: vlan
ip:
  address:
    - "192.0.2.1/24"
    - "2001:db8:1::1/64"
gateway4: 192.0.2.254
gateway6: 2001:db8:1::fffe
dns:
  - 192.0.2.200
  - 2001:db8:1::ffbb
dns_search:
  - example.com
vlan_id: 10
parent: enp1s0
state: up

The parent attribute in the VLAN profile configures the VLAN to operate on top of the enp1s0 device.

3. Run the playbook:

   - To connect as root user to the managed host, enter:
     
     # ansible-playbook -u root ~/vlan-ethernet.yml
   
   - To connect as a user to the managed host, enter:
     
     # ansible-playbook -u user_name --ask-become-pass ~/vlan-ethernet.yml

     The --ask-become-pass option makes sure that the ansible-playbook command prompts for the sudo password of the user defined in the -u user_name option.

     If you do not specify the -u user_name option, ansible-playbook connects to the managed host as the user that is currently logged in to the control node.

Additional resources

   - For details about the parameters used in network_connections and for additional information about the network System Role, see the /usr/share/ansible/roles/rhel-system-roles.network/README.md file.

   - For details about the ansible-playbook command, see the ansible-playbook(1) man page.

4.4. CONFIGURING A NETWORK BRIDGE USING RHEL SYSTEM ROLES

You can use the networking RHEL System Role to configure a Linux bridge. This procedure describes how to configure a network bridge that uses two Ethernet devices, and sets IPv4 and IPv6 addresses, default gateways, and DNS configuration.

   NOTE
   
   Set the IP configuration on the bridge and not on the ports of the Linux bridge.

Prerequisites
- The `ansible` and `rhel-system-roles` packages are installed on the control node.

- If you use a different remote user than `root` when you run the playbook, this user has appropriate `sudo` permissions on the managed node.

- Two or more physical or virtual network devices are installed on the server.

Procedure

1. If the host on which you want to execute the instructions in the playbook is not yet inventoried, add the IP or name of this host to the `/etc/ansible/hosts` Ansible inventory file:

   ```
   node.example.com
   ```

2. Create the `~/bridge-ethernet.yml` playbook with the following content:

   ```yaml
   ---
   - name: Configure a network bridge that uses two Ethernet ports
     hosts: node.example.com
     become: true
     tasks:
     - include_role:
       name: linux-system-roles.network
       vars:
         network_connections:
         # Define the bridge profile
         - name: bridge0
           type: bridge
           interface_name: bridge0
           ip:
             address:
             - "192.0.2.1/24"
             - "2001:db8:1::1/64"
           gateway4: 192.0.2.254
           gateway6: 2001:db8:1::fffe
           dns:
           - 192.0.2.200
           - 2001:db8:1::ffbb
           dns_search:
           - example.com
         state: up

         # Add an Ethernet profile to the bridge
         - name: bridge0-port1
           interface_name: enp7s0
           type: ethernet
           master: bridge0
           slave_type: bridge
         state: up

         # Add a second Ethernet profile to the bridge
         - name: bridge0-port2
           interface_name: enp8s0
           type: ethernet
   ```
master: bridge0
slave_type: bridge
state: up

3. Run the playbook:

- To connect as root user to the managed host, enter:
  
  ```
  # ansible-playbook -u root ~/bridge-ethernet.yml
  ```

- To connect as a user to the managed host, enter:
  
  ```
  # ansible-playbook -u user_name --ask-become-pass ~/bridge-ethernet.yml
  ```

  The `--ask-become-pass` option makes sure that the `ansible-playbook` command prompts for the `sudo` password of the user defined in the `-u user_name` option.

  If you do not specify the `-u user_name` option, `ansible-playbook` connects to the managed host as the user that is currently logged in to the control node.

Additional resources

- For details about the parameters used in `network_connections` and for additional information about the network System Role, see the `/usr/share/ansible/roles/rhel-system-roles.network/README.md` file.

- For details about the `ansible-playbook` command, see the `ansible-playbook(1)` man page.

4.5. CONFIGURING A NETWORK BOND USING RHEL SYSTEM ROLES

You can use the network RHEL System Role to configure a network bond. This procedure describes how to configure a bond in active-backup mode that uses two Ethernet devices, and sets an IPv4 and IPv6 addresses, default gateways, and DNS configuration.

**NOTE**

Set the IP configuration on the bridge and not on the ports of the Linux bridge.

Prerequisites

- The `ansible` and `rhel-system-roles` packages are installed on the control node.

- If you use a different remote user than `root` when you run the playbook, this user has appropriate `sudo` permissions on the managed node.

- Two or more physical or virtual network devices are installed on the server.

Procedure

1. If the host on which you want to execute the instructions in the playbook is not yet inventoried, add the IP or name of this host to the `/etc/ansible/hosts` Ansible inventory file:

   ```
   node.example.com
   ```
2. Create the `~/bond-ethernet.yml` playbook with the following content:

```yaml
---
- name: Configure a network bond that uses two Ethernet ports
  hosts: node.example.com
  become: true
  tasks:
    - include_role:
      name: linux-system-roles.network

  vars:
    network_connections:
      # Define the bond profile
      - name: bond0
        type: bond
        interface_name: bond0
        ip:
          address:
            - "192.0.2.1/24"
            - "2001:db8:1::1/64"
        gateway4: 192.0.2.254
        gateway6: 2001:db8:1::ffe
        dns:
          - 192.0.2.200
          - 2001:db8:1::ffbb
        dns_search:
          - example.com
        bond:
          mode: active-backup
          state: up

      # Add an Ethernet profile to the bond
      - name: bond0-port1
        interface_name: enp7s0
        type: ethernet
        master: bond0
        state: up

      # Add a second Ethernet profile to the bond
      - name: bond0-port2
        interface_name: enp8s0
        type: ethernet
        master: bond0
        state: up
```

3. Run the playbook:

- To connect as root user to the managed host, enter:

  ```bash
  # ansible-playbook -u root ~/bond-ethernet.yml
  ```

- To connect as a user to the managed host, enter:

  ```bash
  # ansible-playbook -u user_name --ask-become-pass ~/bond-ethernet.yml
  ```
The --ask-become-pass option makes sure that the ansible-playbook command prompts for the sudo password of the user defined in the -u user_name option.

If you do not specify the -u user_name option, ansible-playbook connects to the managed host as the user that is currently logged in to the control node.

Additional resources

- For details about the parameters used in network_connections and for additional information about the network System Role, see the /usr/share/ansible/roles/rhel-system-roles.network/README.md file.

- For details about the ansible-playbook command, see the ansible-playbook(1) man page.

4.6. CONFIGURING A STATIC ETHERNET CONNECTION WITH 802.1X NETWORK AUTHENTICATION USING RHEL SYSTEM ROLES

Using RHEL System Roles, you can automate the creation of an Ethernet connection that uses the 802.1X standard to authenticate the client. This procedure describes how to remotely add an Ethernet connection for the enp1s0 interface with the following settings by running an Ansible playbook:

- A static IPv4 address - 192.0.2.1 with a/24 subnet mask
- A static IPv6 address - 2001:db8:1::1 with a/64 subnet mask
- An IPv4 default gateway - 192.0.2.254
- An IPv6 default gateway - 2001:db8:1::fffe
- An IPv4 DNS server - 192.0.2.200
- An IPv6 DNS server - 2001:db8:1::ffbb
- A DNS search domain - example.com
- 802.1X network authentication using the TLS Extensible Authentication Protocol (EAP)

Run this procedure on the Ansible control node.

Prerequisites

- The ansible and rhel-system-roles packages are installed on the control node.

- If you use a different remote user than root when you run the playbook, you must have appropriate sudo permissions on the managed node.

- The network supports 802.1X network authentication.

- The managed node uses NetworkManager.

- The following files required for TLS authentication exist on the control node:
  - The client key stored in the /srv/data/client.key file.
  - The client certificate stored in the /srv/data/client.crt file.
The Certificate Authority (CA) certificate stored in the /srv/data/ca.crt file.

Procedure

1. If the host on which you want to execute the instructions in the playbook is not yet inventoried, add the IP or name of this host to the /etc/ansible/hosts Ansible inventory file:

   node.example.com

2. Create the ~/enable-802.1x.yml playbook with the following content:

```yaml
---
- name: Configure an Ethernet connection with 802.1X authentication
  hosts: node.example.com
  become: true
  tasks:
    - name: Copy client key for 802.1X authentication
      copy:
        src: '/srv/data/client.key'
        dest: '/etc/pki/tls/private/client.key'
        mode: 0600
    - name: Copy client certificate for 802.1X authentication
      copy:
        src: '/srv/data/client.crt'
        dest: '/etc/pki/tls/certs/client.crt'
    - name: Copy CA certificate for 802.1X authentication
      copy:
        src: '/srv/data/ca.crt'
        dest: '/etc/pki/ca-trust/source/anchors/ca.crt'
    - include_role:
      name: linux-system-roles.network
      vars:
        network_connections:
          - name: enp1s0
            type: ethernet
            autoconnect: yes
            ip:
              address:
                - 192.0.2.1/24
                - 2001:db8:1::1/64
              gateway4: 192.0.2.254
              gateway6: 2001:db8:1::fffe
              dns:
                - 192.0.2.200
                - 2001:db8:1::ffbb
              dns_search:
                - example.com
            ieee802_1x:
              identity: user_name
              eap: tls
              private_key: '/etc/pki/tls/private/client.key'
              private_key_password: "password"
```

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3. Run the playbook:

- To connect as root user to the managed host, enter:

  ```
  # ansible-playbook -u root ~/enable-802.1x.yml
  ```

- To connect as a user to the managed host, enter:

  ```
  # ansible-playbook -u user_name --ask-become-pass ~/ethernet-static-IP.yml
  ```

  The `--ask-become-pass` option makes sure that the `ansible-playbook` command prompts for the `sudo` password of the user defined in the `u user_name` option.

  If you do not specify the `u user_name` option, `ansible-playbook` connects to the managed host as the user that is currently logged in to the control node.

Additional resources

- For details about the parameters used in `network_connections` and for additional information about the `network` System Role, see the `/usr/share/ansible/roles/rhel-system-roles.network/README.md` file.

- For details about the 802.1X parameters, see the `ieee802_1x` section in the `/usr/share/ansible/roles/rhel-system-roles.network/README.md` file.

- For details about the `ansible-playbook` command, see the `ansible-playbook(1)` man page.

### 4.7. Setting the Default Gateway on an Existing Connection Using System Roles

You can use the `networking` RHEL System Role to set the default gateway.

**IMPORTANT**

When you run a play that uses the `networking` RHEL System Role, the System Role overrides an existing connection profile with the same name if the settings do not match the ones specified in the play. Therefore, always specify the whole configuration of the network connection profile in the play, even if, for example, the IP configuration already exists. Otherwise, the role resets these values to their defaults.

Depending on whether it already exists, the procedure creates or updates the `enp1s0` connection profile with the following settings:

- A static IPv4 address - 198.51.100.20 with a /24 subnet mask
- A static IPv6 address - 2001:db8:1::1 with a /64 subnet mask
- An IPv4 default gateway - 198.51.100.254
**Prerequisites**

- The `ansible` and `rhel-system-roles` packages are installed on the control node.
- If you use a different remote user than `root` when you run the playbook, this user has appropriate `sudo` permissions on the managed node.

**Procedure**

1. If the host on which you want to execute the instructions in the playbook is not yet inventoried, add the IP or name of this host to the `/etc/ansible/hosts` Ansible inventory file:

   ```
   node.example.com
   ```

2. Create the `~/ethernet-connection.yml` playbook with the following content:

   ```yaml
   ---
   - name: Configure an Ethernet connection with static IP and default gateway
     hosts: node.example.com
     become: true
     tasks:
     - include_role:
         name: linux-system-roles.network
     vars:
       network_connections:
       - name: enp1s0
         type: ethernet
         autoconnect: yes
         ip:
           address:
           - 198.51.100.20/24
           - 2001:db8:1::1/64
         gateway4: 198.51.100.254
         gateway6: 2001:db8:1::fffe
         dns:
           - 198.51.100.200
           - 2001:db8:1::ffbb
         dns_search:
           - example.com
         state: up
   ```

3. Run the playbook:

   - To connect as `root` user to the managed host, enter:

     ```
     # ansible-playbook -u root ~/ethernet-connection.yml
     ```
To connect as a user to the managed host, enter:

```
# ansible-playbook -u user_name --ask-become-pass ~/ethernet-connection.yml
```

The `--ask-become-pass` option makes sure that the `ansible-playbook` command prompts for the `sudo` password of the user defined in the `-u user_name` option.

If you do not specify the `-u user_name` option, `ansible-playbook` connects to the managed host as the user that is currently logged in to the control node.

Additional resources

- For details about the parameters used in `network_connections` and for additional information about the `network` System Role, see the `/usr/share/ansible/roles/rhel-system-roles.network/README.md` file.
- For details about the `ansible-playbook` command, see the `ansible-playbook(1)` man page.

### 4.8. CONFIGURING A STATIC ROUTE USING RHEL SYSTEM ROLES

You can use the networking RHEL System Role to configure static routes.

**IMPORTANT**

When you run a play that uses the networking RHEL System Role, the System Role overrides an existing connection profile with the same name if the settings do not match the ones specified in the play. Therefore, always specify the whole configuration of the network connection profile in the play, even if, for example, the IP configuration already exists. Otherwise, the role resets these values to their defaults.

Depending on whether it already exists, the procedure creates or updates the `enp7s0` connection profile with the following settings:

- A static IPv4 address - 198.51.100.20 with a /24 subnet mask
- A static IPv6 address - 2001:db8:1::1 with a /64 subnet mask
- An IPv4 default gateway - 198.51.100.254
- An IPv6 default gateway - 2001:db8:1::fffe
- An IPv4 DNS server - 198.51.100.200
- An IPv6 DNS server - 2001:db8:1::ffbb
- A DNS search domain - example.com
- Static routes:
  - 192.0.2.0/24 with gateway 198.51.100.1
  - 203.0.113.0/24 with gateway 198.51.100.2

Prerequisites
The `ansible` and `rhel-system-roles` packages are installed on the control node.

- If you use a different remote user than `root` when you run the playbook, this user has appropriate `sudo` permissions on the managed node.

Procedure

1. If the host on which you want to execute the instructions in the playbook is not yet inventoried, add the IP or name of this host to the `/etc/ansible/hosts` Ansible inventory file:

   ```
   node.example.com
   ```

2. Create the `~/add-static-routes.yml` playbook with the following content:

   ```yaml
   ---
   - name: Configure an Ethernet connection with static IP and additional routes
     hosts: node.example.com
     become: true
     tasks:
       - include_role:
           name: linux-system-roles.network

     vars:
       network_connections:
         - name: enp7s0
           type: ethernet
           autoconnect: yes
           ip:
             address:
               - 198.51.100.20/24
               - 2001:db8:1::1/64
             gateway4: 198.51.100.254
             gateway6: 2001:db8:1::fffe
             dns:
               - 198.51.100.200
               - 2001:db8:1::ffbb
             dns_search:
               - example.com
           route:
             - network: 192.0.2.0
               prefix: 24
               gateway: 198.51.100.1
             - network: 203.0.113.0
               prefix: 24
               gateway: 198.51.100.2
           state: up
   ```

3. Run the playbook:

   - To connect as `root` user to the managed host, enter:

     ```bash
     # ansible-playbook -u root ~/add-static-routes.yml
     ```

   - To connect as a user to the managed host, enter:
# ansible-playbook -u user_name --ask-become-pass ~/add-static-routes.yml

The --ask-become-pass option makes sure that the ansible-playbook command prompts for the sudo password of the user defined in the -u user_name option.

If you do not specify the -u user_name option, ansible-playbook connects to the managed host as the user that is currently logged in to the control node.

Verification steps

- Display the routing table:

```bash
# ip -4 route
default via 198.51.100.254 dev enp7s0 proto static metric 100
192.0.2.0/24 via 198.51.100.1 dev enp7s0 proto static metric 100
203.0.113.0/24 via 198.51.100.2 dev enp7s0 proto static metric 100
...```

Additional resources

- For details about the parameters used in network_connections and for additional information about the network System Role, see the /usr/share/ansible/roles/rhel-system-roles.network/README.md file.

- For details about the ansible-playbook command, see the ansible-playbook(1) man page.

## 4.9. USING SYSTEM ROLES TO SET ETHTOOL FEATURES

You can use the networking RHEL System Role to configure ethtool features of a NetworkManager connection.

**IMPORTANT**

When you run a play that uses the networking RHEL System Role, the System Role overrides an existing connection profile with the same name if the settings do not match the ones specified in the play. Therefore, always specify the whole configuration of the network connection profile in the play, even if, for example the IP configuration, already exists. Otherwise the role resets these values to their defaults.

Depending on whether it already exists, the procedure creates or updates the enp1s0 connection profile with the following settings:

- A static IPv4 address - 198.51.100.20 with a/24 subnet mask
- A static IPv6 address - 2001:db8:1::1 with a/64 subnet mask
- An IPv4 default gateway - 198.51.100.254
- An IPv6 default gateway - 2001:db8:1::ffe
- An IPv4 DNS server - 198.51.100.200
- An IPv6 DNS server - 2001:db8:1::ffbb
- A DNS search domain - example.com

- `ethtool` features:
  - Generic receive offload (GRO): disabled
  - Generic segmentation offload (GSO): enabled
  - TX Stream Control Transmission Protocol (SCTP) segmentation: disabled

Prerequisites

- The `ansible` and `rhel-system-roles` packages are installed on the control node.
- If you use a different remote user than root when you run the playbook, this user has appropriate `sudo` permissions on the managed node.

Procedure

1. If the host on which you want to execute the instructions in the playbook is not yet inventoried, add the IP or name of this host to the `/etc/ansible/hosts` Ansible inventory file:

   ```
   node.example.com
   ```

2. Create the `~/configure-ethernet-device-with-ethtool-features.yml` playbook with the following content:

   ```yaml
   ---
   - name: Configure an Ethernet connection with ethtool features
     hosts: node.example.com
     become: true
     tasks:
     - include_role:
       name: linux-system-roles.network
       vars:
         network_connections:
         - name: enp1s0
           type: ethernet
           autoconnect: yes
           ip:
             address:
             - 198.51.100.20/24
             - 2001:db8:1::1/64
           gateway4: 198.51.100.254
           gateway6: 2001:db8:1::fffe
           dns:
             - 198.51.100.200
             - 2001:db8:1::ffbb
           dns_search:
             - example.com
           ethtool:
             feature:
             gro: "no"
   ```
3. Run the playbook:

   - To connect as root user to the managed host, enter:
     
     # ansible-playbook -u root ~/configure-ethernet-device-with-ethtool-features.yml

   - To connect as a user to the managed host, enter:
     
     # ansible-playbook -u user_name --ask-become-pass ~/configure-ethernet-device-with-ethtool-features.yml

   The --ask-become-pass option makes sure that the ansible-playbook command prompts for the sudo password of the user defined in the -u user_name option.

   If you do not specify the -u user_name option, ansible-playbook connects to the managed host as the user that is currently logged in to the control node.

Additional resources

   - For a full list of ethtool features and details about the parameters used in network_connections, and for additional information about the network system role, see the /usr/share/ansible/roles/rhel-system-roles.network/README.md file.

   - For details about the ansible-playbook command, see the ansible-playbook(1) man page.
CHAPTER 5. CONFIGURING SELinux USING SYSTEM ROLES

5.1. INTRODUCTION TO THE SELinux SYSTEM ROLE

RHEL System Roles is a collection of Ansible roles and modules that provide a consistent configuration interface to remotely manage multiple RHEL systems. The SELinux system role enables the following actions:

- Cleaning local policy modifications related to SELinux booleans, file contexts, ports, and logins.
- Setting SELinux policy booleans, file contexts, ports, and logins.
- Restoring file contexts on specified files or directories.

The following table provides an overview of input variables available in the SELinux system role.

Table 5.1. SELinux system role variables

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Role variable</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>CLI alternative</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>selinux_policy</td>
<td>Chooses a policy protecting targeted processes or Multi Level Security protection.</td>
<td>SELINUXTYPE in /etc/selinux/config</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>selinux_state</td>
<td>Switches SELinux modes. See ansible-doc selinux</td>
<td>setenforce and SELINUX in /etc/selinux/config.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>selinux_booleans</td>
<td>Enables and disables SELinux booleans. See ansible-doc seboolean.</td>
<td>setsebool</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>selinux_fcontexts</td>
<td>Adds or removes a SELinux file context mapping. See ansible-doc sefcontext.</td>
<td>semanage fcontext</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>selinux_restore_dirs</td>
<td>Restores SELinux labels in the file-system tree.</td>
<td>restorecon -R</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>selinux_ports</td>
<td>Sets SELinux labels on ports. See ansible-doc seport.</td>
<td>semanage port</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>selinux_logins</td>
<td>Sets users to SELinux user mapping. See ansible-doc sellogin.</td>
<td>semanage login</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The /usr/share/doc/rhel-system-roles/selinux/example-selinux-playbook.yml example playbook installed by the rhel-system-roles package demonstrates how to set the targeted policy in enforcing mode. The playbook also applies several local policy modifications and restores file contexts in the /tmp/test_dir/ directory.
Additional resources

- For a detailed reference on SELinux role variables, install the `rhel-system-roles` package, and see the `README.md` or `README.html` files in the `/usr/share/doc/rhel-system-roles/selinux/` directory.

- For more information on RHEL System Roles, see Introduction to RHEL System Roles

5.2. USING THE SELINUX SYSTEM ROLE TO APPLY SELINUX SETTINGS ON MULTIPLE SYSTEMS

Follow the steps to prepare and apply an Ansible playbook with your verified SELinux settings.

Prerequisites

- Your Red Hat Ansible Engine subscription is attached to the system. See the How do I download and install Red Hat Ansible Engine article for more information.

Procedure

1. Enable the RHEL Ansible repository, for example:
   ```
   # subscription-manager repos --enable ansible-2-for-rhel-8-x86_64-rpms
   ```

2. Install Ansible Engine:
   ```
   # yum install ansible
   ```

3. Install RHEL system roles:
   ```
   # yum install rhel-system-roles
   ```

4. Apply your playbook with an SELinux system role.
   The following command applies an example playbook, which is a part of the `rhel-system-roles` package. You can use this playbook as a template:
   ```
   # ansible-playbook -i host1,host2,host3 /usr/share/doc/rhel-system-roles/selinux/example-selinux-playbook.yml
   ```

Additional resources

- For more information, install the `rhel-system-roles` package, and see the `/usr/share/doc/rhel-system-roles/selinux/` and `/usr/share/ansible/roles/rhel-system-roles.selinux/` directories.
CHAPTER 6. USING THE LOGGING SYSTEM ROLE

As a system administrator, you can use the Logging System Role to configure a RHEL host as a logging server to collect logs from many client systems.

6.1. THE LOGGING SYSTEM ROLE

With the Logging System Role, you can deploy logging configurations on local and remote hosts.

To apply a Logging System Role on one or more systems, you define the logging configuration in a playbook. A playbook is a list of one or more plays. Playbooks are human-readable, and they are written in the YAML format. For more information about playbooks, see Working with playbooks in Ansible documentation.

The set of systems that you want Ansible to configure according to the playbook is defined in an inventory file. For more information on creating and using inventories, see How to build your inventory in Ansible documentation.

Logging solutions provide multiple ways of reading logs and multiple logging outputs.

For example, a logging system can receive the following inputs:

- local files,
- systemd/journal,
- another logging system over the network.

In addition, a logging system can have the following outputs:

- logs are stored in the local files in the /var/log directory,
- logs are sent to Elasticsearch,
- logs are forwarded to another logging system.

With the logging system role, you can combine the inputs and outputs to fit your needs. For example, you can configure a logging solution that stores inputs from journal in a local file, whereas inputs read from files are both forwarded to another logging system and stored in the local log files.

6.2. LOGGING SYSTEM ROLE PARAMETERS

In a Logging System Role playbook, you define the inputs in the logging_inputs parameter, outputs in the logging_outputs parameter, and the relationships between the inputs and outputs in the logging_flows parameter. The Logging System Role processes these variables with additional options to configure the logging system. You can also enable encryption.

NOTE

Currently, the only available logging system in the Logging System Role is Rsyslog.

- **logging_inputs** - List of inputs for the logging solution.
  - **name** - Unique name of the input. Used in the logging_flows inputs list and a part of the generated config file name.
○ **type** - Type of the input element. The type specifies a task type which corresponds to a directory name in `roles/rsyslog/(tasks,vars)/inputs/`.
  
  ▪ **basics** - Inputs configuring inputs from `systemd` journal or `unix` socket.
    ○ **kernel_message** - Load `imklog` if set to `true`. Default to `false`.
    ○ **use_imuxsock** - Use `imuxsock` instead of `imjournal`. Default to `false`.
    ○ **ratelimit_burst** - Maximum number of messages that can be emitted within `ratelimit_interval`. Default to `20000` if `use_imuxsock` is `false`. Default to `200` if `use_imuxsock` is `true`.
    ○ **ratelimit_interval** - Interval to evaluate `ratelimit_burst`. Default to `600` seconds if `use_imuxsock` is `false`. Default to `0` if `use_imuxsock` is `true`. `0` indicates rate limiting is turned off.
    ○ **persist_state_interval** - Journal state is persisted every `value` messages. Default to `10`. Effective only when `use_imuxsock` is `false`.
  
  ▪ **files** - Inputs configuring inputs from local files.
  
  ▪ **remote** - Inputs configuring inputs from the other logging system over network.
    ○ **state** - State of the configuration file, `present` or `absent`. Default to `present`.
    ○ **logging_outputs** - List of outputs for the logging solution.
      ○ **files** - Outputs configuring outputs to local files.
      ○ **forwards** - Outputs configuring outputs to another logging system.
      ○ **remote_files** - Outputs configuring outputs from another logging system to local files.
    ○ **logging_flows** - List of flows that define relationships between `logging_inputs` and `logging_outputs`. The `logging_flows` variable has the following keys:
      ○ **name** - Unique name of the flow
      ○ **inputs** - List of `logging_inputs` name values
      ○ **outputs** - List of `logging_outputs` name values.

Additional resources

○ Documentation installed with the `rhel-system-roles` package in `/usr/share/ansible/roles/rhel-system-roles.logging/README.html`

### 6.3. APPLYING A LOCAL LOGGING SYSTEM ROLE

Follow these steps to prepare and apply a Red Hat Ansible Engine playbook to configure a logging solution on a set of separate machines. Each machine will record logs locally.

**Prerequisites**

○ You have Red Hat Ansible Engine installed on the system from which you want to run the playbook.
NOTE
You do not have to have Red Hat Ansible Engine installed on the systems on which you want to deploy the logging solution.

- You have the `rhel-system-roles` package on the system from which you want to run the playbook.

NOTE
You do not have to have `rsyslog` installed, because the system role installs `rsyslog` when deployed.

- You have an inventory file listing the systems on which you want to configure the logging solution.

Procedure

1. Create a playbook that defines the required role:
   a. Create a new YAML file and open it in a text editor, for example:

   ```
   # vi logging-playbook.yml
   ```

   b. Insert the following content:

   ```
   ---
   - name: Deploying basics input and implicit files output
     hosts: all
     roles:
     - linux-system-roles.logging
     vars:
       logging_inputs:
       - name: system_input
         type: basics
       logging_outputs:
       - name: files_output
         type: files
       logging_flows:
       - name: flow1
         inputs: [system_input]
         outputs: [files_output]
   ```

2. Execute the playbook on a specific inventory:

   ```
   # ansible-playbook -i inventory-file /path/to/file/logging-playbook.yml
   ```

   Where:
   - `inventory-file` is the inventory file.
   - `logging-playbook.yml` is the playbook you use.

Verification
1. Test the syntax of the `/etc/rsyslog.conf` file:

   # rsyslogd -N 1
   rsyslogd: version 8.1911.0-6.el8, config validation run (level 1), master config
   /etc/rsyslog.conf

2. Verify that the system sends messages to the log:

   a. Send a test message:

      # logger test

   b. View the `/var/log/messages` log, for example:

      # cat /var/log/messages
      Aug  5 13:48:31 hostname root[6778]: test

      Where `hostname` is the host name of the client system. Note that the log contains the
      user name of the user that entered the logger command, in this case `root`.

6.4. APPLYING A REMOTE LOGGING SOLUTION USING THE LOGGING SYSTEM ROLE

Follow these steps to prepare and apply a Red Hat Ansible Engine playbook to configure a remote
logging solution. In this playbook, one or more clients take logs from `systemd-journal` and forward
them to a remote server. The server receives remote input from `remote_rsyslog` and `remote_files`
and outputs the logs to local files in directories named by remote host names.

Prerequisites

- You have Red Hat Ansible Engine installed on the system from which you want to run the
  playbook.

  **NOTE**

  You do not have to have Red Hat Ansible Engine installed on the systems on
  which you want to deploy the logging solution.

- You have the `rhel-system-roles` package on the system from which you want to run the
  playbook.

  **NOTE**

  You do not have to have `rsyslog` installed, because the system role installs
  `rsyslog` when deployed.

- You have at least two systems:

  - At least one will be the logging server.
  - At least one will be the logging client.
Procedure

1. Create a playbook that defines the required role:
   a. Create a new YAML file and open it in a text editor, for example:
      
      ```
      # vi logging-playbook.yml
      ```
   b. Insert the following content into the file:
      
      ```yaml
      ---
      - name: Deploying remote input and remote_files output
        hosts: server
        roles:
        - linux-system-roles.logging
        vars:
          logging_inputs:
          - name: remote_udp_input
            type: remote
            udp_ports: [ 601 ]
          - name: remote_tcp_input
            type: remote
            tcp_ports: [ 601 ]
        logging_outputs:
        - name: remote_files_output
          type: remote_files
        logging_flows:
        - name: flow_0
          inputs: [remote_udp_input, remote_tcp_input]
          outputs: [remote_files_output]

      - name: Deploying basics input and forwards output
        hosts: clients
        roles:
        - linux-system-roles.logging
        vars:
          logging_inputs:
          - name: basic_input
            type: basics
          logging_outputs:
          - name: forward_output0
            type: forwards
            severity: info
            target: host1.example.com
            udp_port: 601
          - name: forward_output1
            type: forwards
            facility: mail
            target: host1.example.com
            tcp_port: 601
        logging_flows:
        - name: flows0
          inputs: [basic_input]
          outputs: [forward_output0, forward_output1]
      ```
Where host1.example.com is the logging server.

NOTE
You can modify the parameters in the playbook to fit your needs.

WARNING
The logging solution works only with the ports defined in the SELinux policy of the server or client system and open in the firewall. The default SELinux policy includes ports 601, 514, 6514, 10514, and 20514. To use a different port, modify the SELinux policy on the client and server systems. Configuring the firewall through system roles is not yet supported.

2. Create an inventory file that lists your servers and clients:
   a. Create a new file and open it in a text editor, for example:

   ```
   # vi inventory.ini
   ```

   b. Insert the following content into the inventory file:

   ```
   [servers]
   server ansible_host=host1.example.com
   [clients]
   client ansible_host=host2.example.com
   ```

   Where: *host1.example.com* is the logging server. *host2.example.com* is the logging client.

3. Execute the playbook on your inventory.

   ```
   # ansible-playbook -i /path/to/file/inventory.ini /path/to/file/_logging-playbook.yml
   ```

   Where:

   - *inventory.ini* is the inventory file.
   - *logging-playbook.yml* is the playbook you created.

Verification steps

1. On both the client and the server system, test the syntax of the /etc/rsyslog.conf file:
2. Verify that the client system sends messages to the server:
   a. On the client system, send a test message:

   ```bash
   # logger test
   ```
   
   b. On the server system, view the `/var/log/messages` log, for example:

   ```bash
   # cat /var/log/messages
   Aug  5 13:48:31 host2.example.com root[6778]: test
   ```
   
   Where `host2.example.com` is the host name of the client system. Note that the log contains the user name of the user that entered the `logger` command, in this case `root`.

Additional resources

- Getting started with RHEL System Roles
- Documentation installed with the `rhel-system-roles` package in `/usr/share/ansible/roles/rhel-system-roles.logging/README.html`
- RHEL System Roles KB article

6.5. ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

- Getting started with RHEL System Roles
- Documentation installed with the `rhel-system-roles` package in `/usr/share/ansible/roles/rhel-system-roles.logging/README.html`
- RHEL System Roles KB article
CHAPTER 7. USING THE CLEVIS AND TANG SYSTEM ROLES

7.1. INTRODUCTION TO THE CLEVIS AND TANG SYSTEM ROLES

RHEL System Roles is a collection of Ansible roles and modules that provide a consistent configuration interface to remotely manage multiple RHEL systems.

RHEL 8.3 introduced Ansible roles for automated deployments of Policy-Based Decryption (PBD) solutions using Clevis and Tang. The rhel-system-roles package contains these system roles, the related examples, and also the reference documentation.

The nbde_client system role enables you to deploy multiple Clevis clients in an automated way. Note that the nbde_client role supports only Tang bindings, and you cannot use it for TPM2 bindings at the moment.

The nbde_client role requires volumes that are already encrypted using LUKS. This role supports to bind a LUKS-encrypted volume to one or more Network-Bound (NBDE) servers - Tang servers. You can either preserve the existing volume encryption with a passphrase or remove it. After removing the passphrase, you can unlock the volume only using NBDE. This is useful when a volume is initially encrypted using a temporary key or password that you should remove after the system you provision the system.

If you provide both a passphrase and a key file, the role uses what you have provided first. If it does not find any of these valid, it attempts to retrieve a passphrase from an existing binding.

PBD defines a binding as a mapping of a device to a slot. This means that you can have multiple bindings for the same device. The default slot is slot 1.

The nbde_client role provides also the state variable. Use the present value for either creating a new binding or updating an existing one. Contrary to a clevis luks bind command, you can use state: present also for overwriting an existing binding in its device slot. The absent value removes a specified binding.

Using the nbde_server role, you can deploy and manage a Tang server as part of an automated disk encryption solution. This role supports the following features:

- Rotating Tang keys
- Deploying and backing up Tang keys

Additional resources

- For a detailed reference on Network-Bound Disk Encryption (NBDE) role variables, install the rhel-system-roles package, and see the README.md and README.html files in the /usr/share/doc/rhel-system-roles/nbde_client/ and /usr/share/doc/rhel-system-roles/nbde_server/ directories.
- For example system-roles playbooks, install the rhel-system-roles package, and see the /usr/share/ansible/roles/rhel-system-roles.nbde_server/examples/ directories.
- For more information on RHEL System Roles, see Introduction to RHEL System Roles

7.2. USING THE NBDE_SERVER SYSTEM ROLE FOR SETTING UP MULTIPLE TANG SERVERS
Follow the steps to prepare and apply an Ansible playbook containing your Tang-server settings.

Prerequisites

- Your Red Hat Ansible Engine subscription is attached to the system. See the How do I download and install Red Hat Ansible Engine article for more information.

Procedure

1. Enable the RHEL Ansible repository, for example:
   ```bash
   # subscription-manager repos --enable ansible-2-for-rhel-8-x86_64-rpms
   ```

2. Install Ansible Engine:
   ```bash
   # yum install ansible
   ```

3. Install RHEL system roles:
   ```bash
   # yum install rhel-system-roles
   ```

4. Prepare your playbook containing settings for Tang servers. You can either start from the scratch, or use one of the example playbooks from the /usr/share/ansible/roles/rhel-system-roles.nbde_server/examples/ directory.
   ```bash
   # cp /usr/share/ansible/roles/rhel-system-roles.nbde_server/examples/simple_deploy.yml /my-tang-playbook.yml
   ```

5. Edit the playbook in a text editor of your choice, for example:
   ```bash
   # vi my-tang-playbook.yml
   ```

6. Add the required parameters. The following example playbook ensures deploying of your Tang server and a key rotation:
   ```yaml
   ---
   - hosts: all
     vars:
       nbde_server_rotate_keys: yes
     roles:
       - linux-system-roles.nbde_server
   ```

7. Apply the finished playbook:
   ```bash
   # ansible-playbook -i host1,host2,host3 my-tang-playbook.yml
   ```

Additional resources
For more information, install the `rhel-system-roles` package, and see the `/usr/share/doc/rhel-system-roles/nbde_server/` and `/usr/share/ansible/roles/rhel-system-roles.nbde_server/` directories.

7.3. USING THE NBDE_CLIENT SYSTEM ROLE FOR SETTING UP MULTIPLE CLEVIS CLIENTS

Follow the steps to prepare and apply an Ansible playbook containing your Clevis-client settings.

**NOTE**

The `nbde_client` system role supports only Tang bindings. This means that you cannot use it for TPM2 bindings at the moment.

Prerequisites

- Your Red Hat Ansible Engine subscription is attached to the system. See the [How do I download and install Red Hat Ansible Engine](#) article for more information.
- Your volumes are already encrypted by LUKS.

Procedure

1. Enable the RHEL Ansible repository, for example:
   ```bash
   # subscription-manager repos --enable ansible-2-for-rhel-8-x86_64-rpms
   ```

2. Install Ansible Engine:
   ```bash
   # yum install ansible
   ```

3. Install RHEL system roles:
   ```bash
   # yum install rhel-system-roles
   ```

4. Prepare your playbook containing settings for Clevis clients. You can either start from the scratch, or use one of the example playbooks from the `/usr/share/ansible/roles/rhel-system-roles.nbde_client/examples/` directory.
   ```bash
   # cp /usr/share/ansible/roles/rhel-system-roles.nbde_client/examples/high_availability.yml ./my-clevis-playbook.yml
   ```

5. Edit the playbook in a text editor of your choice, for example:
   ```bash
   # vi my-clevis-playbook.yml
   ```

6. Add the required parameters. The following example playbook configures Clevis clients for automated unlocking of two LUKS-encrypted volumes by when at least one of two Tang servers is available:
   ```bash
   ---
   - hosts: all
   ```
vars:
 nbde_client_bindings:
   - device: /dev/rhel/root
     encryption_key_src: /etc/luks/keyfile
     servers:
       - http://server1.example.com
       - http://server2.example.com
     - device: /dev/rhel/swap
       encryption_key_src: /etc/luks/keyfile
       servers:
         - http://server1.example.com
         - http://server2.example.com
oles:
 - linux-system-roles.nbde_client

7. Apply the finished playbook:

```bash
# ansible-playbook -i host1,host2,host3 my-clevis-playbook.yml
```

Additional resources

- For details about the parameters and additional information about the nbde_client role, install the rhel-system-roles package, and see the /usr/share/doc/rhel-system-roles/nbde_client/ and /usr/share/ansible/roles/rhel-system-roles.nbde_client/ directories.
CHAPTER 8. REQUESTING CERTIFICATES USING RHEL SYSTEM ROLES

With the Certificate System Role, you can use Red Hat Ansible Engine to issue and manage certificates.

This chapter covers the following topics:

- The Certificate System Role
- Requesting a new self-signed certificate using the Certificate System Role
- Requesting a new certificate from IdM CA using the Certificate System Role

8.1. THE CERTIFICATE SYSTEM ROLE

Using the Certificate System Role, you can manage issuing and renewing TLS and SSL certificates using Red Hat Ansible Engine.

The role uses certmonger as the certificate provider, and currently supports issuing and renewing self-signed certificates and using the IdM integrated certificate authority (CA).

You can use the following variables in your Ansible playbook with the Certificate System Role:

- certificate_wait to specify if the task should wait for the certificate to be issued.
- certificate_requests to represent each certificate to be issued and its parameters.

Additional resources

- For details about the parameters used in the certificate_requests variable and additional information about the certificate System Role, see the /usr/share/ansible/roles/rhel-system-roles.certificate/README.md file.
- For details about RHEL System Roles and how to apply them, see Getting started with RHEL System Roles.

8.2. REQUESTING A NEW SELF-SIGNED CERTIFICATE USING THE CERTIFICATE SYSTEM ROLE

With the Certificate System Role, you can use Red Hat Ansible Engine to issue self-signed certificates.

This process uses the certmonger provider and requests the certificate through the getcert command.

**NOTE**

By default, certmonger automatically tries to renew the certificate before it expires. You can disable this by setting the auto_renew parameter in the Ansible playbook to no.

Prerequisites
• You have Red Hat Ansible Engine installed on the system from which you want to run the playbook.

**NOTE**
You do not have to have Ansible installed on the systems on which you want to deploy the certificate solution.

• You have the `rhel-system-roles` package installed on the system from which you want to run the playbook.
   For details about RHEL System Roles and how to apply them, see [Getting started with RHEL System Roles](#).

**Procedure**

1. Optional: Create an inventory file, for example `inventory.file`:

   ```
   $ touch inventory.file
   ```

2. Open your inventory file and define the hosts on which you want to request the certificate, for example:

   ```
   [webserver]
   server.idm.example.com
   ```

3. Create a playbook file, for example `request-certificate.yml`:

   - Set `hosts` to include the hosts on which you want to request the certificate, such as `webserver`.

   - Set the `certificate_requests` variable to include the following:
     - Set the `name` parameter to the desired name of the certificate, such as `mycert`.
     - Set the `dns` parameter to the domain to be included in the certificate, such as `*.example.com`.
     - Set the `ca` parameter to `self-sign`.

   - Set the `rhel-system-roles.certificate` role under `roles`.

   This is the playbook file for this example:

   ```yaml
   ---
   - hosts: webserver
     vars:
       certificate_requests:
         - name: mycert
dns: *.example.com
cia: self-sign
     roles:
       - rhel-system-roles.certificate
   ```
4. Save the file.

5. Run the playbook:

   $ ansible-playbook -i inventory.file request-certificate.yml

Additional resources

- For details about the parameters used in the `certificate_requests` variable and additional information about the certificate System Role, see the `/usr/share/ansible/roles/rhel-system-roles.certificate/README.md` file.

- For details about the `ansible-playbook` command, see the `ansible-playbook(1)` man page.

### 8.3. Requesting a New Certificate from IDM CA Using the Certificate System Role

With the Certificate System Role, you can use Red Hat Ansible Engine to issue certificates while using an IdM server with an integrated certificate authority (CA). Therefore, you can efficiently and consistently manage the certificate trust chain for multiple systems when using IdM as the CA.

This process uses the `certmonger` provider and requests the certificate through the `getcert` command.

**NOTE**

By default, `certmonger` automatically tries to renew the certificate before it expires. You can disable this by setting the `auto_renew` parameter in the Ansible playbook to `no`.

**Prerequisites**

- You have Red Hat Ansible Engine installed on the system from which you want to run the playbook.

  **NOTE**

  You do not have to have Ansible installed on the systems on which you want to deploy the certificate solution.

- You have the `rhel-system-roles` package installed on the system from which you want to run the playbook.

  For details about RHEL System Roles and how to apply them, see [Getting started with RHEL System Roles](#).

**Procedure**

1. *Optional*: Create an inventory file, for example `inventory.file`:

   $ touch inventory.file

2. Open your inventory file and define the hosts on which you want to request the certificate, for example:
3. Create a playbook file, for example request-certificate.yml:

- Set *hosts* to include the hosts on which you want to request the certificate, such as **webserver**.
- Set the *certificate_requests* variable to include the following:
  - Set the *name* parameter to the desired name of the certificate, such as `mycert`.
  - Set the *dns* parameter to the domain to be included in the certificate, such as `www.example.com`.
  - Set the *principal* parameter to specify the Kerberos principal, such as `HTTP/www.example.com@EXAMPLE.COM`.
  - Set the *ca* parameter to `ipa`.
- Set the *rhel-system-roles.certificate* role under *roles*.

This is the playbook file for this example:

```yaml
---
- hosts: webserver
  vars:
    certificate_requests:
      - name: mycert
dns: www.example.com
principal: HTTP/www.example.com@EXAMPLE.COM
ca: ipa
  roles:
    - rhel-system-roles.certificate
```

4. Save the file.

5. Run the playbook:

```bash
$ ansible-playbook -i inventory.file request-certificate.yml
```

Additional resources

- For details about the parameters used in the *certificate_requests* variable and additional information about the *certificate* System Role, see the `/usr/share/ansible/roles/rhel-system-roles.certificate/README.md` file.
- For details about the *ansible-playbook* command, see the `ansible-playbook(1)` man page.

8.4. SPECIFYING COMMANDS TO RUN BEFORE OR AFTER CERTIFICATE ISSUANCE USING THE CERTIFICATE SYSTEM ROLE

With the Certificate System Role, you can use Red Hat Ansible Engine to execute a command before and after a certificate is issued or renewed.
In the following example, the administrator ensures stopping the httpd service before a self-signed certificate for www.example.com is issued or renewed, and restarting it afterwards.

**NOTE**

By default, certmonger automatically tries to renew the certificate before it expires. You can disable this by setting the auto_renew parameter in the Ansible playbook to no.

Prerequisites

- You have Red Hat Ansible Engine installed on the system from which you want to run the playbook.

  **NOTE**
  
  You do not have to have Ansible installed on the systems on which you want to deploy the certificate solution.

- You have the rhel-system-roles package installed on the system from which you want to run the playbook.
  
  For details about RHEL System Roles and how to apply them, see *Getting started with RHEL System Roles*.

Procedure

1. **Optional:** Create an inventory file, for example `inventory.file`:

   ```
   $ touch inventory.file
   ```

2. Open your inventory file and define the hosts on which you want to request the certificate, for example:

   ```
   [webserver]
   server.idm.example.com
   ```

3. Create a playbook file, for example `request-certificate.yml`:

   - Set `hosts` to include the hosts on which you want to request the certificate, such as `webserver`.
   - Set the `certificate_requests` variable to include the following:
     - Set the `name` parameter to the desired name of the certificate, such as `mycert`.
     - Set the `dns` parameter to the domain to be included in the certificate, such as `www.example.com`.
     - Set the `ca` parameter to the CA you want to use to issue the certificate, such as `self-sign`.
     - Set the `run_before` parameter to the command you want to execute before this certificate is issued or renewed, such as `systemctl stop httpd.service`. 
Set the `run_after` parameter to the command you want to execute after this certificate is issued or renewed, such as `systemctl start httpd.service`.

- Set the `rhel-system-roles.certificate` role under `roles`.

This is the playbook file for this example:

```yaml
---
- hosts: webserver
  vars:
    certificate_requests:
      - name: mycert
dns: www.example.com
cia: self-sign
run_before: systemctl stop httpd.service
run_after: systemctl start httpd.service
  roles:
    - linux-system-roles.certificate
```

4. Save the file.

5. Run the playbook:

   ```bash
   $ ansible-playbook -i inventory.file request-certificate.yml
   ```

Additional resources

- For details about the parameters used in the `certificate_requests` variable and additional information about the `certificate` System Role, see the `/usr/share/ansible/roles/rhel-system-roles.certificate/README.md` file.

- For details about the `ansible-playbook` command, see the `ansible-playbook(1)` man page.
CHAPTER 9. CONFIGURING KDUMP USING RHEL SYSTEM ROLES

To manage kdump using Ansible, you can use the kdump role, which is one of the RHEL System Roles available in RHEL 8.

Using the kdump enables you to specify where to save the contents of the system's memory for later analysis.

For more information on RHEL System Roles and how to apply them, see Introduction to RHEL System Roles.

9.1. THE KDUMP RHEL SYSTEM ROLE

The kdump System Role enables you to set basic kernel dump parameters on multiple systems.

9.2. KDUMP ROLE PARAMETERS

The parameters used for the kdump RHEL System Roles are:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Role Variable</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>kdump_path</td>
<td>The path to which vmcore is written. If kdump_target is not null, path is relative to that dump target. Otherwise, it must be an absolute path in the root file system.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Additional resources

- See the makedumpfile(8) man page.
- For details about the parameters used in kdump and additional information about the kdump System Role, see the /usr/share/ansible/roles/rhel-system-roles.tlog/README.md file.

9.3. CONFIGURING KDUMP USING RHEL SYSTEM ROLES

You can set basic kernel dump parameters on multiple systems using the kdump System Role by running an Ansible playbook.

WARNING

The kdump role replaces the kdump configuration of the managed hosts entirely by replacing the /etc/kdump.conf file. Additionally, if the kdump role is applied, all previous kdump settings are also replaced, even if they are not specified by the role variables, by replacing the /etc/sysconfig/kdump file.
Prerequisites

- You have Red Hat Ansible Engine installed on the system from which you want to run the playbook.

  NOTE

  You do not have to have Red Hat Ansible Automation Platform installed on the systems on which you want to deploy the kdump solution.

- You have the rhel-system-roles package installed on the system from which you want to run the playbook.

- You have an inventory file which lists the systems on which you want to deploy kdump.

Procedure

1. Create a new playbook.yml file with the following content:

   ```yaml
   ---
   - hosts: kdump-test
     vars:
       kdump_path: /var/crash
     roles:
       - rhel-system-roles.kdump
   ```

2. Optional: Verify playbook syntax.

   ```
   # ansible-playbook --syntax-check playbook.yml
   ```

3. Run the playbook on your inventory file:

   ```
   # ansible-playbook -i inventory_file /path/to/file/playbook.yml
   ```

Additional resources

- For a detailed reference on kdump role variables, see the README.md or README.html files in the /usr/share/doc/rhel-system-roles/kdump directory.

- See Section 1.3, “Applying a role”.

- Documentation installed with the rhel-system-roles package/usr/share/ansible/roles/rhel-system-roles.kdump/README.html
CHAPTER 10. MANAGING LOCAL STORAGE USING RHEL SYSTEM ROLES

To manage LVM and local file systems (FS) using Ansible, you can use the storage role, which is one of the RHEL System Roles available in RHEL 8.

Using the storage role enables you to automate administration of file systems on disks and logical volumes on multiple machines and across all versions of RHEL starting with RHEL 7.7.

For more information on RHEL System Roles and how to apply them, see Introduction to RHEL System Roles.

10.1. INTRODUCTION TO THE STORAGE ROLE

The storage role can manage:

- File systems on disks which have not been partitioned
- Complete LVM volume groups including their logical volumes and file systems

With the storage role you can perform the following tasks:

- Create a file system
- Remove a file system
- Mount a file system
- Unmount a file system
- Create LVM volume groups
- Remove LVM volume groups
- Create logical volumes
- Remove logical volumes
- Create RAID volumes
- Remove RAID volumes
- Create LVM pools with RAID
- Remove LVM pools with RAID

10.2. PARAMETERS THAT IDENTIFY A STORAGE DEVICE IN THE STORAGE SYSTEM ROLE

Your storage role configuration affects only the file systems, volumes, and pools that you list in the following variables.

storage_volumes

List of file systems on all unpartitioned disks to be managed. Partitions are currently unsupported.
storage_pools

List of pools to be managed. Currently the only supported pool type is LVM. With LVM, pools represent volume groups (VGs). Under each pool there is a list of volumes to be managed by the role. With LVM, each volume corresponds to a logical volume (LV) with a file system.

10.3. EXAMPLE ANSIBLE PLAYBOOK TO CREATE AN XFS FILE SYSTEM ON A BLOCK DEVICE

This section provides an example Ansible playbook. This playbook applies the storage role to create an XFS file system on a block device using the default parameters.

```
---
- hosts: all
  vars:
    storage_volumes:
      - name: barefs
        type: disk
        disks:
          - sdb
        fs_type: xfs
        roles:
          - rhel-system-roles.storage

- The volume name (barefs in the example) is currently arbitrary. The storage role identifies the volume by the disk device listed under the disks: attribute.

- You can omit the fs_type: xfs line because XFS is the default file system in RHEL 8.

- To create the file system on an LV, provide the LVM setup under the disks: attribute, including the enclosing volume group. For details, see Example Ansible playbook to manage logical volumes. Do not provide the path to the LV device.

Additional resources

- For details about the parameters used in the storage system role, see the /usr/share/ansible/roles/rhel-system-roles.storage/README.md file.
10.4. EXAMPLE ANSIBLE PLAYBOOK TO PERSISTENTLY MOUNT A FILE SYSTEM

This section provides an example Ansible playbook. This playbook applies the storage role to immediately and persistently mount an XFS file system.

Example 10.2. A playbook that mounts a file system on /dev/sdb to /mnt/data

```yaml
---
- hosts: all
  vars:
    storage_volumes:
      - name: barefs
        type: disk
        disks:
          - sdb
        fs_type: xfs
        mount_point: /mnt/data
    roles:
      - rhel-system-roles.storage

- This playbook adds the file system to the /etc/fstab file, and mounts the file system immediately.
- If the file system on the /dev/sdb device or the mount point directory do not exist, the playbook creates them.
```

Additional resources

- For details about the parameters used in the storage system role, see the /usr/share/ansible/roles/rhel-system-roles.storage/README.md file.

10.5. EXAMPLE ANSIBLE PLAYBOOK TO MANAGE LOGICAL VOLUMES

This section provides an example Ansible playbook. This playbook applies the storage role to create an LVM logical volume in a volume group.

Example 10.3. A playbook that creates a mylv logical volume in the myvg volume group

```yaml
---
- hosts: all
  vars:
    storage_pools:
      - name: myvg
        disks:
          - sda
          - sdb
          - sdc
        volumes:
          - name: mylv
            size: 2G
            fs_type: ext4
```
The `myvg` volume group consists of the following disks:

- `/dev/sda`
- `/dev/sdb`
- `/dev/sdc`

If the `myvg` volume group already exists, the playbook adds the logical volume to the volume group.

If the `myvg` volume group does not exist, the playbook creates it.

The playbook creates an Ext4 file system on the `mylv` logical volume, and persistently mounts the file system at `/mnt`.

Additional resources

- For details about the parameters used in the `storage` system role, see the `/usr/share/ansible/roles/rhel-system-roles.storage/README.md` file.

### 10.6. EXAMPLE ANSIBLE PLAYBOOK TO ENABLE ONLINE BLOCK DISCARD

This section provides an example Ansible playbook. This playbook applies the `storage` role to mount an XFS file system with online block discard enabled.

Example 10.4. A playbook that enables online block discard on `/mnt/data/`

```yaml
---
- hosts: all
  vars:
    storage_volumes:
      - name: barefs
        type: disk
        disks:
          - sdb
        fs_type: xfs
        mount_point: /mnt/data
        mount_options: discard
      roles:
        - rhel-system-roles.storage
```

Additional resources

- This playbook also performs all the operations of the persistent mount example described in [Example Ansible playbook to persistently mount a file system](#).
For details about the parameters used in the `storage` system role, see the 
`/usr/share/ansible/roles/rhel-system-roles.storage/README.md` file.

### 10.7. EXAMPLE ANSIBLE PLAYBOOK TO CREATE AND MOUNT AN EXT4 FILE SYSTEM

This section provides an example Ansible playbook. This playbook applies the `storage` role to create and mount an Ext4 file system.

Example 10.5. A playbook that creates Ext4 on `/dev/sdb` and mounts it at `/mnt/data`

```yaml
---
- hosts: all
  vars:
    storage_volumes:
      - name: barefs
        type: disk
        disks:
          - sdb
        fs_type: ext4
        fs_label: label-name
        mount_point: /mnt/data
  roles:
    - rhel-system-roles.storage
```

- The playbook creates the file system on the `/dev/sdb` disk.
- The playbook persistently mounts the file system at the `/mnt/data` directory.
- The label of the file system is `label-name`.

### Additional resources

- For details about the parameters used in the `storage` system role, see the 
  `/usr/share/ansible/roles/rhel-system-roles.storage/README.md` file.

### 10.8. EXAMPLE ANSIBLE PLAYBOOK TO CREATE AND MOUNT AN EXT3 FILE SYSTEM

This section provides an example Ansible playbook. This playbook applies the `storage` role to create and mount an Ext3 file system.

Example 10.6. A playbook that creates Ext3 on `/dev/sdb` and mounts it at `/mnt/data`

```yaml
---
- hosts: all
  vars:
    storage_volumes:
      - name: barefs
        type: disk
        disks:
          - sdb
```

- For details about the parameters used in the `storage` system role, see the 
  `/usr/share/ansible/roles/rhel-system-roles.storage/README.md` file.
The playbook creates the file system on the /dev/sdb disk.

The playbook persistently mounts the file system at the /mnt/data directory.

The label of the file system is label-name.

Additional resources

- For details about the parameters used in the storage system role, see the /usr/share/ansible/roles/rhel-system-roles.storage/README.md file.

10.9. CONFIGURING A RAID VOLUME USING THE STORAGE SYSTEM ROLE

With the storage System Role, you can configure a RAID volume on RHEL using Red Hat Ansible Automation Platform. In this section you will learn how to set up an Ansible playbook with the available parameters to configure a RAID volume to suit your requirements.

Prerequisites

- You have Red Hat Ansible Engine installed on the system from which you want to run the playbook.

  NOTE
  You do not have to have Red Hat Ansible Automation Platform installed on the systems on which you want to deploy the storage solution.

- You have the rhel-system-roles package installed on the system from which you want to run the playbook.

- You have an inventory file detailing the systems on which you want to deploy a RAID volume using the storage System Role.

Procedure

1. Create a new playbook.yml file with the following content:

```yaml
- hosts: all
  vars:
    storage_safe_mode: false
    storage_volumes:
      - name: data
        type: raid
        disks: [sdd, sde, sdf, sdg]
        raid_level: raid0
```
raid_chunk_size: 32 KiB
mount_point: /mnt/data
state: present
roles:
  - name: rhel-system-roles.storage

**WARNING**

Device names can change in certain circumstances; for example, when you add a new disk to a system. Therefore, to prevent data loss, we do not recommend using specific disk names in the playbook.


```
# ansible-playbook --syntax-check playbook.yml
```

3. Run the playbook on your inventory file:

```
# ansible-playbook -i inventory.file /path/to/file/playbook.yml
```

Additional resources

- For more information about RAID, see [Managing RAID](#).

- For details about the parameters used in the storage system role, see the `/usr/share/ansible/roles/rhel-system-roles.storage/README.md` file.

## 10.10. CONFIGURING AN LVM POOL WITH RAID USING THE STORAGE SYSTEM ROLE

With the `storage` System Role, you can configure an LVM pool with RAID on RHEL using Red Hat Ansible Automation Platform. In this section you will learn how to set up an Ansible playbook with the available parameters to configure an LVM pool with RAID.

**Prerequisites**

- You have Red Hat Ansible Engine installed on the system from which you want to run the playbook.

  **NOTE**

  You do not have to have Red Hat Ansible Automation Platform installed on the systems on which you want to deploy the `storage` solution.

- You have the `rhel-system-roles` package installed on the system from which you want to run the playbook.
- You have an inventory file detailing the systems on which you want to configure an LVM pool with RAID using the **storage** System Role.

**Procedure**

1. Create a new `playbook.yml` file with the following content:

```yaml
- hosts: all
  vars:
    storage_safe_mode: false
    storage_pools:
      - name: my_pool
        type: lvm
        disks: [sdh, sdi]
        raid_level: raid1
        volumes:
          - name: my_pool
            size: "1 GiB"
            mount_point: "/mnt/app/shared"
            fs_type: xfs
            state: present
    roles:
      - name: rhel-system-roles.storage

**NOTE**
To create an LVM pool with RAID, you must specify the RAID type using the `raid_level` parameter.


```
# ansible-playbook --syntax-check playbook.yml
```

3. Run the playbook on your inventory file:

```
# ansible-playbook -i inventory.file /path/to/file/playbook.yml
```

**Additional resources**

- For more information about RAID, see [Managing RAID](#).
- For details about the parameters used in the storage system role, see the `/usr/share/ansible/roles/rhel-system-roles.storage/README.md` file.

**10.11. CREATING A LUKS ENCRYPTED VOLUME USING THE STORAGE ROLE**

You can use the `storage` role to create and configure a volume encrypted with LUKS by running an Ansible playbook.

**Prerequisites**
• You have Red Hat Ansible Engine installed on the system from which you want to run the playbook.

NOTE
You do not have to have Red Hat Ansible Automation Platform installed on the systems on which you want to create the volume.

• You have the `rhel-system-roles` package installed on the Ansible controller.

• You have an inventory file detailing the systems on which you want to deploy a LUKS encrypted volume using the `storage` System Role.

Procedure

1. Create a new `playbook.yml` file with the following content:

```yaml
- hosts: all
  vars:
    storage_volumes:
      - name: barefs
        type: disk
        disks:
          - sdb
        fs_type: xfs
        fs_label: label-name
        mount_point: /mnt/data
        encryption: true
        encryption_password: your-password
      roles:
        - rhel-system-roles.storage
```

2. Optional. Verify playbook syntax:

   ```
   # ansible-playbook --syntax-check playbook.yml
   ```

3. Run the playbook on your inventory file:

   ```
   # ansible-playbook -i inventory.file /path/to/file/playbook.yml
   ```

Additional resources

• For more information about LUKS, see 17. Encrypting block devices using LUKS.

• For details about the parameters used in the `storage` system role, see the `/usr/share/ansible/roles/rhel-system-roles.storage/README.md` file.

Additional resources

• For more information, install the `rhel-system-roles` package and see the following directories:
  - `/usr/share/doc/rhel-system-roles/storage/`
- `/usr/share/ansible/roles/rhel-system-roles.storage/`
CHAPTER 11. CONFIGURING TIME SYNCHRONIZATION USING RHEL SYSTEM ROLES

With the timesync RHEL System Role, you can manage time synchronization on multiple target machines on RHEL using Red Hat Ansible Automation Platform.

11.1. THE TIMESYNC SYSTEM ROLE

You can manage time synchronization on multiple target machines using the timesync RHEL System Role.

The timesync role installs and configures an NTP or PTP implementation to operate as an NTP client or PTP replica in order to synchronize the system clock with NTP servers or grandmasters in PTP domains.

Note that using the timesync role also facilitates the migration to chrony, because you can use the same playbook on all versions of Red Hat Enterprise Linux starting with RHEL 6 regardless of whether the system uses ntp or chrony to implement the NTP protocol.

11.2. APPLYING THE TIMESYNC SYSTEM ROLE FOR A SINGLE POOL OF SERVERS

The following example shows how to apply the timesync role in a situation with just one pool of servers.

WARNING

The timesync role replaces the configuration of the given or detected provider service on the managed host. Previous settings are lost, even if they are not specified in the role variables. The only preserved setting is the choice of provider if the timesync_ntp_provider variable is not defined.

Prerequisites

- You have Red Hat Ansible Engine installed on the system from which you want to run the playbook.

NOTE

You do not have to have Red Hat Ansible Automation Platform installed on the systems on which you want to deploy the timesync solution.

- You have the rhel-system-roles package installed on the system from which you want to run the playbook.

- You have an inventory file which lists the systems on which you want to deploy timesync System Role.
Procedure

1. Create a new `playbook.yml` file with the following content:

```yaml
---
- hosts: timesync-test
  vars:
    timesync_ntp_servers:
      - hostname: 2.rhel.pool.ntp.org
        pool: yes
        iburst: yes
      roles:
        - rhel-system-roles.timesync
```

2. Optional: Verify playbook syntax.

   ```
   # ansible-playbook --syntax-check playbook.yml
   ```

3. Run the playbook on your inventory file:

   ```
   # ansible-playbook -i inventory_file /path/to/file/playbook.yml
   ```

11.3. TIMESYNC SYSTEM ROLES VARIABLES

You can pass the following variable to the timesync role:

- **timesync.ntp_servers**:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Role variable settings</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>hostname: host.example.com</td>
<td>Hostname or address of the server</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>minpoll: number</td>
<td>Minimum polling interval. Default: 6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>maxpoll: number</td>
<td>Maximum polling interval. Default: 10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>iburst: yes</td>
<td>Flag enabling fast initial synchronization. Default: no</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>pool: yes</td>
<td>Flag indicating that each resolved address of the hostname is a separate NTP server. Default: no</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Additional resources

- For a detailed reference on timesync role variables, install the rhel-system-roles package, and see the README.md or README.html files in the `/usr/share/doc/rhel-system-roles/timesync` directory.
CHAPTER 12. MONITORING PERFORMANCE USING RHEL SYSTEM ROLES

12.1. INTRODUCTION TO THE METRICS SYSTEM ROLE

RHEL System Roles is a collection of Ansible roles and modules that provide a consistent configuration interface to remotely manage multiple RHEL systems. The metrics System Role configures performance analysis services for the local system and, optionally, includes a list of remote systems to be monitored by the local system. The metrics System Role enables you to use `pcp` to monitor your systems performance without having to configure `pcp` separately, as the set-up and deployment of `pcp` is handled by the playbook.

### Table 12.1. Metrics system role variables

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Role variable</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Example usage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>metrics_monitored_hosts</td>
<td>List of remote hosts to be analyzed by the target host. These hosts will have metrics recorded on the target host, so ensure enough disk space exists below <code>/var/log</code> for each host.</td>
<td><code>metrics_monitored_hosts: [&quot;webserver.example.com&quot;, &quot;database.example.com&quot;]</code></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>metrics_retention_days</td>
<td>Configures the number of days for performance data retention before deletion.</td>
<td><code>metrics_retention_days: 14</code></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>metrics_graph_service</td>
<td>A boolean flag that enables the host to be set up with services for performance data visualization via <code>pcp</code> and <code>grafana</code>. Set to false by default.</td>
<td><code>metrics_graph_service: false</code></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>metrics_query_service</td>
<td>A boolean flag that enables the host to be set up with time series query services for querying recorded <code>pcp</code> metrics via <code>redis</code>. Set to false by default.</td>
<td><code>metrics_query_service: false</code></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>metrics_provider</td>
<td>Specifies which metrics collector to use to provide metrics. Currently, <code>pcp</code> is the only supported metrics provider.</td>
<td><code>metrics_provider: &quot;pcp&quot;</code></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Additional resources

- for details about the parameters used in `metrics_connections` and additional information about the metrics System Role, see the `/usr/share/ansible/roles/rhel-system-roles.metrics/README.md` file.
12.2. USING THE METRICS SYSTEM ROLE TO MONITOR YOUR LOCAL SYSTEM WITH VISUALIZATION

This procedure describes how to use the metrics RHEL System Role to monitor your local system while simultaneously provisioning data visualization via grafana.

Prerequisites

- You have Red Hat Ansible Engine installed on the machine you want to monitor.
- You have the rhel-system-roles package installed on the machine you want to monitor.

Procedure

1. Configure localhost in the /etc/ansible/hosts Ansible inventory by adding the following content to the inventory:

   ```
   localhost ansible_connection=local
   ```

2. Create an Ansible playbook with the following content:

   ```
   ---
   - hosts: localhost
     vars:
     metrics_graph_service: yes
     roles:
     - rhel-system-roles.metrics
   ```

3. Run the Ansible playbook:

   ```
   # ansible-playbook name_of_your_playbook.yml
   ```

   **NOTE**

   Since the metrics_graph_service boolean is set to value="yes", grafana is automatically installed and provisioned with pcp added as a data source.

4. To view visualization of the metrics being collected on your machine, access the grafana web interface as described in Accessing the Grafana web UI.

12.3. USING THE METRICS SYSTEM ROLE TO SETUP A FLEET OF INDIVIDUAL SYSTEMS TO MONITOR THEMSELVES

This procedure describes how to use the metrics System Role to set up a fleet of machines to monitor themselves.

Prerequisites

- You have Red Hat Ansible Engine installed on the machine you want to use to run the playbook.
• You have the `rhel-system-roles` package installed on the machine you want to use to run the playbook.

Procedure

1. Add the name or IP of the machines you wish to monitor via the playbook to the `/etc/ansible/hosts` Ansible inventory file under an identifying group name enclosed in brackets:

   ```
   [remotes]
   webserver.example.com
database.example.com
   ```

2. Create an Ansible playbook with the following content:

   ```
   ---
   - hosts: remotes
     vars:
       metrics_retention_days: 0
     roles:
       - rhel-system-roles.metrics
   ```

3. Run the Ansible playbook:

   ```
   # ansible-playbook name_of_your_playbook.yml
   ```

12.4. USING THE METRICS SYSTEM ROLE TO MONITOR A FLEET OF MACHINES CENTRALLY VIA YOUR LOCAL MACHINE

This procedure describes how to use the metrics System Role to set up your local machine to centrally monitor a fleet of machines while also provisioning visualization of the data via `grafana` and querying of the data via `redis`.

Prerequisites

• You have Red Hat Ansible Engine installed on the machine you want to use to run the playbook.

• You have the `rhel-system-roles` package installed on the machine you want to use to run the playbook.

Procedure

1. Create an Ansible playbook with the following content:

   ```
   ---
   - hosts: localhost
     vars:
       metrics_graph_service: yes
       metrics_query_service: yes
       metrics_retention_days: 10
   ```
metrics_monitored_hosts: ["database.example.com", "webserver.example.com"]
roles:
- rhel-system-roles.metrics

2. Run the Ansible playbook:

```
# ansible-playbook name_of_your_playbook.yml
```

NOTE

Since the `metrics_graph_service` and `metrics_query_service` booleans are set to value="yes", grafana is automatically installed and provisioned with pcp added as a data source with the pcp data recording indexed into redis, allowing the pcp querying language to be used for complex querying of the data.

3. To view graphical representation of the metrics being collected centrally by your machine and to query the data, access the grafana web interface as described in Accessing the Grafana web UI.
CHAPTER 13. CONFIGURING A SYSTEM FOR SESSION RECORDING USING THE TLOG RHEL SYSTEM ROLES

With the tlog RHEL System Role, you can configure a system for terminal session recording on RHEL using Red Hat Ansible Automation Platform.

13.1. THE TLOG SYSTEM ROLE

You can configure a RHEL system for terminal session recording on RHEL using the tlog RHEL System Role. The tlog package and its associated web console session player provide you with the ability to record and play back user terminal sessions.

You can configure the recording to take place per user or user group via the SSSD service. All terminal input and output is captured and stored in a text-based format in the system journal.

Additional resources

- For more details on session recording in RHEL, see Recording Sessions

13.2. COMPONENTS AND PARAMETERS OF THE TLOG SYSTEM ROLES

The Session Recording solution is composed of the following components:

- The tlog utility
- System Security Services Daemon (SSSD)
- Optional: The web console interface

The parameters used for the tlog RHEL System Roles are:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Role Variable</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>tlog_use_sssd (default: yes)</td>
<td>Configure session recording with SSSD, the preferred way of managing recorded users or groups</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>tlog_scope_sssd (default: none)</td>
<td>Configure SSSD recording scope - all / some / none</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>tlog_users_sssd (default: [])</td>
<td>YAML list of users to be recorded</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>tlog_groups_sssd (default: [])</td>
<td>YAML list of groups to be recorded</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- For details about the parameters used in tlog and additional information about the tlog System Role, see the /usr/share/ansible/roles/rhel-system-roles.tlog/README.md file.

13.3. DEPLOYING THE TLOG RHEL SYSTEM ROLE

Follow these steps to prepare and apply an Ansible playbook to configure a RHEL system to log recording data to the systemd journal.
Prerequisites

- You have set SSH keys for access from the control node to the target system where the tlog System Role will be configured.

- You have one control node, which is a system from which the Ansible Engine configures the other systems.

- You have Red Hat Ansible Engine installed on the control node, from which you want to run the playbook.

- You have the rhel-system-roles package installed on the control node from which you want to run the playbook.

- You have at least one system that you want to configure the tlog System Role. You do not have to have Red Hat Ansible Automation Platform installed on the systems on which you want to deploy the tlog solution.

Procedure

1. Create a new playbook.yml file with the following content:

```yaml
---
- name: Deploy session recording
  hosts: all
  vars:
    tlog_scope_sssd: some
    tlog_users_sssd:
      - recordeduser
  roles:
    - rhel-system-roles.tlog
```

Where,

- **tlog_scope_sssd:**
  - *some* specifies you want to record only certain users and groups, not *all* or *none*.

- **tlog_users_sssd:**
  - *recordeduser* specifies the user you want to record a session from. Note that this does not add the user for you. You must set the user by yourself.

2. Optionally, verify the playbook syntax.

```bash
# ansible-playbook --syntax-check playbook.yml
```

3. Run the playbook on your inventory file:

```bash
# ansible-playbook -i IP_Address /path/to/file/playbook.yml -v
```

As a result, the playbook installs the tlog role on the system you specified. It also creates an SSSD configuration drop file that can be used by the users and groups that you define. SSSD parses and reads these users and groups to overlay tlog session as the shell user. Additionally, if the cockpit
package is installed on the system, the playbook also installs the cockpit-session-recording package, which is a Cockpit module that allows you to view and play recordings in the web console interface.

Verification steps
To verify that the SSSD configuration drop file is created in the system, perform the following steps:

1. Navigate to the folder where the SSSD configuration drop file is created:
   
   ```
   # cd /etc/sssd/conf.d
   ```

2. Check the file content:

   ```
   # cat /etc/sssd/conf.d/sssd-session-recording.conf
   ```

You can see that the file contains the parameters you set in the playbook.

13.4. RECORDING A SESSION USING THE DEPLOYED TLOG SYSTEM ROLE IN THE CLI

Once you have deployed the tlog System Role in the system you have specified, you are able to record a user terminal session using the command-line interface (CLI).

Prerequisites
- You have deployed the tlog System Role in the target system.
- The SSSD configuration drop file was created in the /etc/sssd/conf.d file.

Procedure

1. Create a user and assign a password for this user:

   ```
   # useradd recordeduser
   # passwd recordeduser
   ```

2. Relog to the system as the user you just created:

   ```
   # ssh recordeduser@localhost
   ```

3. Type "yes" when the system prompts you to type yes or no to authenticate.

4. Insert the recordeduser’s password.
   The system prompts a message to inform that your session is being recorded.

   ```
   ATTENTION! Your session is being recorded!
   ```

5. Once you have finished recording the session, type:

   ```
   # exit
   ```
The system logs out from the user and closes the connection with the localhost. As a result, the user session is recorded, stored and you can play it using a journal.

**Verification steps**

To view your recorded session in the journal, do the following steps:

1. Run the command below:
   ```bash
   # journalctl -o verbose -r
   ```

2. Search for the `MESSAGE` field of the `tlog-rec` recorded journal entry.

### 13.5. WATCHING A RECORDED SESSION USING THE CLI

You can play a user session recording from a journal using the command-line interface (CLI).

**Prerequisites**

- You have recorded a user session. See Section 13.4, “Recording a session using the deployed tlog system role in the CLI”

**Procedure**

1. On the CLI terminal, play the user session recording:
   ```bash
   # journalctl -o verbose -r
   ```

2. Search for the `tlog` recording:
   ```bash
   $ /tlog-rec
   ```

   You can see details such as:

   - The username for the user session recording
   - The `out_txt` field, a raw output encode of the recorded session
   - The identifier number `TLOG_REC=ID_number`

3. Copy the identifier number `TLOG_REC=ID_number`.

4. Playback the recording using the identifier number `TLOG_REC=ID_number`.
   ```bash
   # tlog-play -r journal -M TLOG_REC=ID_number
   ```

As a result, you can see the user session recording terminal output being played back.