Redmine - Defect #1175

Empty diff page for binary files

2008-05-05 13:48 - Leszek Ciesielski

Status:	Confirmed		**Start date:**	2008-05-05
Priority:	Normal		**Due date:**	
Assignee:			**% Done:**	0%
Category:	SCM		**Estimated time:**	0.00 hour
Target version:				
Resolution:			**Affected version:**	

Description
When files are commited to svn repository with binary mime type (generally anything with application/* mime), Redmine still shows the "Annotate" button for them, but pressing it shows an empty change list. It would be more user-friendly to show some kind of message indicating why no diff is available (e.g. "This file has a binary mime type of application/xml").

History

#1 - 2008-05-05 21:49 - Jean-Philippe Lang

What SCM are you using ? With Subversion, you should get a message.
Example here on redmine.org: http://www.redmine.org/repositories/annotate/redmine/trunk/public/images/1downarrow.png

#2 - 2008-05-05 21:50 - Jean-Philippe Lang

Sorry, I didn't see that you said "svn repository".
Don't you get the same error message on your install ?

#3 - 2008-05-06 08:40 - Leszek Ciesielski

My mistake. The 'Annotate' behaves as expected, it's the 'Compare Differences' that shows no error message.

#4 - 2008-05-06 19:29 - Jean-Philippe Lang

OK, I'll check it.

#5 - 2008-08-25 16:05 - Jean-Philippe Lang

- Subject changed from Empty annotate page for binary files to Empty diff page for binary files

#6 - 2013-01-04 10:10 - Daniel Felix

- Status changed from New to Confirmed

Hi there,

I just tested this on redmine.org, this seems to be still reproduceable.
See here

Best regards,
Daniel

#7 - 2023-11-15 15:37 - Peter Kövesdi

Even worse: the changes in binary files are not even mentioned when comparing the whole revisions:
https://www.redmine.org/projects/redmine/repository/svn/diff?utf8=%E2%9C%93&rev=10141&rev_to=10140
This simply suggests, there was no change at all between these revisions.
But of course there was a change:
https://www.redmine.org/projects/redmine/repository/svn/revisions/10141

And since 15 years no progress in this essential fail? I mean, if I compare revisions, I *must* rely on getting to see *all* changes, no matter, if they are diffable or not. If it's a binary, no reason to ignore that change at all.
Did I miss something? Is there any workaround available?

#8 - 2023-11-17 08:46 - Peter Kövesdi

Peter Kövesdi wrote in #note-7:

Even worse: the changes in binary files are not even mentioned when comparing the whole revisions:

I made a littel tweaky, ugly solution: I added the following to the top of `app/views/common/_diff.html.erb`:

```
<% diff1=[]
diff.each { |line|
  if line =~ /Binary files (.+?) and (.+?) differ/
    diff1.append("--- "+$1+"\n")
    diff1.append("+++ "+$2+"\n")
    diff1.append("@@ -0,0 +0,0 @@\n")
    diff1.append(" Binary file")
  else
    diff1.append(line)
  end
  diff = diff1
} %>
```

This just tweaks the output of git diff to pretend, the binary changes were diffable. Of course, better would be to change the the redmine source to correctly handle the "Binary files ... and ... differ" output lines of `git diff` and show them nicely as files with path, similar to the revision view. But this is beyond my time and skill at the moment.

```
<% diff1=[]
diff.each { |line|
  if line =~ /Binary files (.+?) and (.+?) differ/
```