

Redmine - Patch #33329

Improve watchers functionality to mark the users that are watching a non visible object and to not return watchers that cannot see the object

2020-04-20 16:22 - Marius BALTEANU

Status: New	Start date:
Priority: Normal	Due date:
Assignee:	% Done: 0%
Category:	Estimated time: 0.00 hour
Target version: 4.2.0	
Description	
<p>The scope of this issue is to decrease the confusion created by the actual watchers implementation which allows you to add to an object (issue, wiki, news) a watcher who doesn't have permissions to view that object. There are multiple open issues generated by this issue, but I opted to create a new issue, clean, to discuss some proposal that I have in plan. At the end, depending on what it's implemented, we close those issues.</p> <p>I made three patches:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. 0001-Fix-typo-in-find_objects_from_params.patch It just fix a typo in the code.2. 0002-Do-not-propose-watchers-that-are-not-allowed-to-see-.patch The patch changes the behaviour of method <code>users_for_new_watcher</code> to reject users who doesn't have the permissions to view the object. This change applies only when the search is made for one object (eg: issue), not for multiple objects (add bulk watchers).3. 0003-Show-an-warning-message-for-watchers-who-cannot-view Because the second patch doesn't cover all the cases and it's difficult to cover all the cases, I've added in the UI an warning next to an invalid watcher with the following warning message: "Invalid watcher: User will not receive any notifications because it does not have access to view this object.". Any feedback on the message is welcome. <code>invalid_watcher.png</code> <p>What else I have in mind:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">Limit the number of results returned by the auto complete method to a maximum 20 or 30 objects in order to avoid performance issues (we need to iterate through each object to check the visibility). Right now, when a term is used in the search, the autocomplete returns all the results found, else returns the first 100 results. It's hard to believe that an user prefer to scroll down in the list of returned watchers instead of typing a more complete search term.Return an error or an warning message when a watcher is added to an object not visible.	
Related issues:	
Related to Redmine - Defect # 22977: A project member has no access and gets ...	New
Related to Redmine - Defect # 5679: Watchers not cleaned/updated when deletin...	Closed 2010-06-12

History

#1 - 2020-04-20 16:27 - Marius BALTEANU

- Related to Defect #22977: A project member has no access and gets no notification, when being a watcher of the issue added

#2 - 2020-04-20 16:57 - Marius BALTEANU

- Related to Defect #5679: Watchers not cleaned/updated when deleting/moving watched object added

#3 - 2020-04-25 09:01 - Go MAEDA

Looks good to me.

A similar patch #16133 was rejected 5 years ago due to performance concerns when a project has a lot of members, but I think 0002-Do-not-propose-watchers-that-are-not-allowed-to-see-.patch does not introduce the performance problem because watchable_object.visible? is only called 200 times, only when the user open Add watchers dialog.

#4 - 2020-04-25 09:45 - Marius BALTEANU

- Assignee deleted (Marius BALTEANU)
- Target version changed from Candidate for next major release to 4.2.0

Go MAEDA wrote:

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I'm adding this to 4.2.0 in order to discuss and find some solutions to fix the current annoying behaviour. We can limit the number of calls made by watchable_object.visible? by limiting the number of results returned from the database (proposal nr#4). Regarding patch nr#3, if the overall idea is accepted, we can load the watchers async always or only when there are more than x watchers. I'm sure that we can find good solutions without performance degradation.

Files

0002-Do-not-propose-watchers-that-are-not-allowed-to-see-.patch	2.01 KB	2020-04-20	Marius BALTEANU
0003-Show-an-warning-message-for-watchers-who-cannot-view.patch	3.51 KB	2020-04-20	Marius BALTEANU
0001-Fix-typo-in-find_objects_from_params.patch	1.4 KB	2020-04-20	Marius BALTEANU
invalid_watcher.png	89.6 KB	2020-04-20	Marius BALTEANU