Redmine - Feature #5875

Changes to child estimates should trigger journal entries for the parent estimate

2010-07-12 23:03 - Kurt Christensen

Status:	New		**Start date:**	2010-07-12
Priority:	Normal		**Due date:**	
Assignee:			**% Done:**	0%
Category:	Issues		**Estimated time:**	0.00 hour
Target version:				
Resolution:				

Description

With the new 'subtask' feature in Redmine 1.0.0 RC, any existing estimate for an issue is replaced with a rollup of the estimates for the child issues. Some problems arise from this:

1. Journal entries are created for estimate changes to the child issues, but not for the parent issue, which makes historical burnup reporting much more difficult.
2. More importantly, any high-level estimate which once existed for a parent issue is lost once it gains a child issue. This is the only case I know of in the Redmine database where data gets lost without a journal entry.

Selfishly I only care about estimated time, although I assume this also affects the other rollup values: priority, start date and due date.

In other words, to reproduce:
1) Create issue
2) Set estimated time to 100
3) Create subtask
4) Set estimated time for subtask to 44

In the database, note that estimated_hours for the parent issue will have changed, but there is no associated journal entry.

Related issues:

Related to Redmine - Feature #5490: Option for independent subtask priority/s...	**Closed**	**2010-05-10**
Related to Redmine - Feature #6687: Making an issue a subtask leads to loss o...	**New**	**2010-10-18**
Related to Redmine - Feature #13585: Make sub-task inherit the properties of ...	**New**	
Has duplicate Redmine - Feature #5876: Changes to child estimates should trig...	**Closed**	**2010-07-12**
Has duplicate Redmine - Feature #5733: Subtasks: inheritance of time needs to...	**Closed**	**2010-06-22**
Has duplicate Redmine - Defect #14118: When creating a subtask, the priority ...	**Closed**	

History

#1 - 2010-07-15 16:01 - Kurt Christensen

This is somewhat related to #5490

#2 - 2010-09-15 18:11 - Kurt Christensen

Just wondering if anyone out there cares about this... I probably should have marked it as a defect rather than a feature, since it really does give surprising database behavior - changes in the child tasks clobber values which are normally journaled, and you can actually lose history. Seems bad.

#3 - 2010-11-18 17:33 - Kurt Christensen

Hellooooo...? Anyone care about this??

#4 - 2010-11-19 00:26 - Mischa The Evil

Kurt Christensen wrote:

> Hellooooo...? Anyone care about this??

I do. See the related issue I filed as #6687. I updated the related issues accordingly too.

#5 - 2010-12-04 15:34 - Randy Syring

I am not sure I agree with just creating a journal entry. My use case is as follows: I have higher level estimates on larger chunks of the project. I then

create sub-tasks as needed. But as this issue indicates, as soon as I add a sub-task with an estimate, I lose the estimate on the parent.

I think my solution would be to come up with a different way to show the sum of the child hours. I don't think wanting an estimate on a parent issue as well having a sum of estimated hours on child issues should be mutually exclusive. I guess, I would advocate for a different field entirely on the issue, something like "Estimated time (children): ..." and keep the current field "Estimated time".

If thats not possible or desired, a second idea would be to let the value in the parent' issues "Estimated time" field determine what is shown. If it has a value, show it. If its blank, and child issues have values, then go ahead and sum the children's values.

#6 - 2011-05-26 15:31 - Svein-Tore Griff With 2/2

I think Randy has suggested the best approach for this.

something like "Estimated time (children): ..." and keep the current field "Estimated time".