Manage backends

Astra Trident

NetApp
October 31, 2024

Table of Contents

Manage backends

Perform backend management with kubectl

Learn about how to perform backend management operations by using `kubectl`.

Delete a backend

By deleting a `TridentBackendConfig`, you instruct Astra Trident to delete/retain backends (based on `deletionPolicy`). To delete a backend, ensure that `deletionPolicy` is set to delete. To delete just the `TridentBackendConfig`, ensure that `deletionPolicy` is set to retain. This will ensure the backend is still present and can be managed by using `tridentctl`.

Run the following command:

```
kubectl delete tbc <tbc-name> -n trident
```

Astra Trident does not delete the Kubernetes Secrets that were in use by `TridentBackendConfig`. The Kubernetes user is responsible for cleaning up secrets. Care must be taken when deleting secrets. You should delete secrets only if they are not in use by the backends.

View the existing backends

Run the following command:

```
kubectl get tbc -n trident
```

You can also run `tridentctl get backend -n trident` or `tridentctl get backend -o yaml -n trident` to obtain a list of all backends that exist. This list will also include backends that were created with `tridentctl`.

Update a backend

There can be multiple reasons to update a backend:

- Credentials to the storage system have changed. To update credentials, the Kubernetes Secret that is used in the `TridentBackendConfig` object must be updated. Astra Trident will automatically update the backend with the latest credentials provided. Run the following command to update the Kubernetes Secret:

  ```
  kubectl apply -f <updated-secret-file.yaml> -n trident
  ```

- Parameters (such as the name of the ONTAP SVM being used) need to be updated.
  - You can update `TridentBackendConfig` objects directly through Kubernetes using the following command:

```
kubectl apply -f <updated-backend-file.yaml>
```

- Alternatively, you can make changes to the existing `TridentBackendConfig` CR using the following command:

```
kubectl edit tbc <tbc-name> -n trident
```

- If a backend update fails, the backend continues to remain in its last known configuration. You can view the logs to determine the cause by running `kubectl get tbc <tbc-name> -o yaml -n trident` or `kubectl describe tbc <tbc-name> -n trident`.
- After you identify and correct the problem with the configuration file, you can re-run the update command.

Perform backend management with tridentctl

Learn about how to perform backend management operations by using `tridentctl`.

Create a backend

After you create a backend configuration file, run the following command:

```
tridentctl create backend -f <backend-file> -n trident
```

If backend creation fails, something was wrong with the backend configuration. You can view the logs to determine the cause by running the following command:

```
tridentctl logs -n trident
```

After you identify and correct the problem with the configuration file, you can simply run the `create` command again.

Delete a backend

To delete a backend from Astra Trident, do the following:

1. Retrieve the backend name:

```
tridentctl get backend -n trident
```

2. Delete the backend:

```
tridentctl delete backend <backend-name> -n trident
```

If Astra Trident has provisioned volumes and snapshots from this backend that still exist, deleting the backend prevents new volumes from being provisioned by it. The backend will continue to exist in a “Deleting” state and Trident will continue to manage those volumes and snapshots until they are deleted.

View the existing backends

To view the backends that Trident knows about, do the following:

- To get a summary, run the following command:

```
tridentctl get backend -n trident
```

- To get all the details, run the following command:

```
tridentctl get backend -o json -n trident
```

Update a backend

After you create a new backend configuration file, run the following command:

```
tridentctl update backend <backend-name> -f <backend-file> -n trident
```

If backend update fails, something was wrong with the backend configuration or you attempted an invalid update. You can view the logs to determine the cause by running the following command:

```
tridentctl logs -n trident
```

After you identify and correct the problem with the configuration file, you can simply run the `update` command again.

Identify the storage classes that use a backend

This is an example of the kind of questions you can answer with the JSON that `tridentctl` outputs for backend objects. This uses the `jq` utility, which you need to install.

```
tridentctl get backend -o json | jq '[.items[] | {backend: .name,
storageClasses: [.storage[].storageClasses]|unique}]'
```

This also applies for backends that were created by using `TridentBackendConfig`.

Move between backend management options

Learn about the different ways of managing backends in Astra Trident.

Options for managing backends

With the introduction of `TridentBackendConfig`, administrators now have two unique ways of managing backends. This poses the following questions:

- Can backends created using `tridentctl` be managed with `TridentBackendConfig`?
- Can backends created using `TridentBackendConfig` be managed using `tridentctl`?

Manage `tridentctl` backends using `TridentBackendConfig`

This section covers the steps required to manage backends that were created using `tridentctl` directly through the Kubernetes interface by creating `TridentBackendConfig` objects.

This will apply to the following scenarios:

- Pre-existing backends, that don't have a `TridentBackendConfig` because they were created with `tridentctl`.
- New backends that were created with `tridentctl`, while other `TridentBackendConfig` objects exist.

In both scenarios, backends will continue to be present, with Astra Trident scheduling volumes and operating on them. Administrators have one of two choices here:

- Continue using `tridentctl` to manage backends that were created using it.
- Bind backends created using `tridentctl` to a new `TridentBackendConfig` object. Doing so would mean the backends will be managed using `kubectl` and not `tridentctl`.

To manage a pre-existing backend using `kubectl`, you will need to create a `TridentBackendConfig` that binds to the existing backend. Here is an overview of how that works:

1. Create a Kubernetes Secret. The secret contains the credentials Astra Trident needs to communicate with the storage cluster/service.
2. Create a `TridentBackendConfig` object. This contains specifics about the storage cluster/service and references the secret created in the previous step. Care must be taken to specify identical config parameters (such as `spec.backendName`, `spec.storagePrefix`, `spec.storageDriverName`, and so on). `spec.backendName` must be set to the name of the existing backend.

Step 0: Identify the backend

To create a `TridentBackendConfig` that binds to an existing backend, you will need to obtain the backend configuration. In this example, let us assume a backend was created using the following JSON definition:

```
tridentctl get backend ontap-nas-backend -n trident
+---------------------+----------------
```

```
+-------------------------------------+--------+---------+
|          NAME       | STORAGE DRIVER |                 UUID
| STATE  | VOLUMES |
+--------------------+---------------
+-------------------------------------+--------+---------+
| ontap-nas-backend   | ontap-nas      | 52f2eb10-e4c6-4160-99fc-
96b3be5ab5d7 | online |      25 |
+--------------------+---------------
+-------------------------------------+--------+---------+

cat ontap-nas-backend.json

{
    "version": 1,
    "storageDriverName": "ontap-nas",
    "managementLIF": "10.10.10.1",
    "dataLIF": "10.10.10.2",
    "backendName": "ontap-nas-backend",
    "svm": "trident_svm",
    "username": "cluster-admin",
    "password": "admin-password",

    "defaults": {
        "spaceReserve": "none",
        "encryption": "false"
    },
    "labels":{"store":"nas_store"},
    "region": "us_east_1",
    "storage": [
        {
            "labels":{"app":"msoffice", "cost":"100"},
            "zone":"us_east_1a",
            "defaults": {
                "spaceReserve": "volume",
                "encryption": "true",
                "unixPermissions": "0755"
            }
        },
        {
            "labels":{"app":"mysqldb", "cost":"25"},
            "zone":"us_east_1d",
            "defaults": {
                "spaceReserve": "volume",
                "encryption": "false",
                "unixPermissions": "0775"
            }
```

```
        }
    ]
}
```

Step 1: Create a Kubernetes Secret

Create a Secret that contains the credentials for the backend, as shown in this example:

```
cat tbc-ontap-nas-backend-secret.yaml

apiVersion: v1
kind: Secret
metadata:
  name: ontap-nas-backend-secret
type: Opaque
stringData:
  username: cluster-admin
  password: admin-password

kubectl create -f tbc-ontap-nas-backend-secret.yaml -n trident
secret/backend-tbc-ontap-san-secret created
```

Step 2: Create a `TridentBackendConfig` CR

The next step is to create a `TridentBackendConfig` CR that will automatically bind to the pre-existing `ontap-nas-backend` (as in this example). Ensure the following requirements are met:

- The same backend name is defined in `spec.backendName`.
- Configuration parameters are identical to the original backend.
- Virtual pools (if present) must retain the same order as in the original backend.
- Credentials are provided through a Kubernetes Secret and not in plain text.

In this case, the `TridentBackendConfig` will look like this:

```
cat backend-tbc-ontap-nas.yaml
apiVersion: trident.netapp.io/v1
kind: TridentBackendConfig
metadata:
  name: tbc-ontap-nas-backend
spec:
  version: 1
  storageDriverName: ontap-nas
  managementLIF: 10.10.10.1
  dataLIF: 10.10.10.2
  backendName: ontap-nas-backend
  svm: trident_svm
  credentials:
    name: mysecret
  defaults:
    spaceReserve: none
    encryption: 'false'
  labels:
    store: nas_store
  region: us_east_1
  storage:
  - labels:
      app: msoffice
      cost: '100'
    zone: us_east_1a
    defaults:
      spaceReserve: volume
      encryption: 'true'
      unixPermissions: '0755'
  - labels:
      app: mysqldb
      cost: '25'
    zone: us_east_1d
    defaults:
      spaceReserve: volume
      encryption: 'false'
      unixPermissions: '0775'

kubectl create -f backend-tbc-ontap-nas.yaml -n trident
tridentbackendconfig.trident.netapp.io/tbc-ontap-nas-backend created
```

Step 3: Verify the status of the `TridentBackendConfig` CR

After the `TridentBackendConfig` has been created, its phase must be `Bound`. It should also reflect the same backend name and UUID as that of the existing backend.

```
kubectl get tbc tbc-ontap-nas-backend -n trident
NAME                   BACKEND NAME          BACKEND UUID
PHASE   STATUS
tbc-ontap-nas-backend  ontap-nas-backend     52f2eb10-e4c6-4160-99fc-
96b3be5ab5d7   Bound   Success

#confirm that no new backends were created (i.e., TridentBackendConfig did
not end up creating a new backend)
tridentctl get backend -n trident
+---------------------+----------------
+--------------------------------------+--------+---------+
|          NAME       | STORAGE DRIVER |                 UUID
| STATE  | VOLUMES |
+---------------------+----------------
+--------------------------------------+--------+---------+
| ontap-nas-backend   | ontap-nas      | 52f2eb10-e4c6-4160-99fc-
96b3be5ab5d7 | online |      25 |
+---------------------+----------------
+--------------------------------------+--------+---------+
```

The backend will now be completely managed using the `tbc-ontap-nas-backend TridentBackendConfig` object.

Manage `TridentBackendConfig` backends using `tridentctl`

`tridentctl` can be used to list backends that were created using `TridentBackendConfig`. In addition, administrators can also choose to completely manage such backends through `tridentctl` by deleting `TridentBackendConfig` and making sure `spec.deletionPolicy` is set to `retain`.

Step 0: Identify the backend

For example, let us assume the following backend was created using `TridentBackendConfig`:

```
kubectl get tbc backend-tbc-ontap-san -n trident -o wide
NAME                    BACKEND NAME        BACKEND UUID
PHASE   STATUS    STORAGE DRIVER   DELETION POLICY
backend-tbc-ontap-san   ontap-san-backend   81abcb27-ea63-49bb-b606-
0a5315ac5f82   Bound   Success   ontap-san        delete

tridentctl get backend ontap-san-backend -n trident
+-------------------+----------------
+--------------------------------------+--------+---------+
|       NAME        | STORAGE DRIVER |                 UUID
| STATE  | VOLUMES |
+-------------------+----------------
+--------------------------------------+--------+---------+
| ontap-san-backend | ontap-san      | 81abcb27-ea63-49bb-b606-
0a5315ac5f82 | online |      33 |
+-------------------+----------------
+--------------------------------------+--------+---------+
```

From the output, it is seen that `TridentBackendConfig` was created successfully and is bound to a backend [observe the backend's UUID].

Step 1: Confirm `deletionPolicy` is set to `retain`

Let us take a look at the value of `deletionPolicy`. This needs to be set to `retain`. This will ensure that when a `TridentBackendConfig` CR is deleted, the backend definition will still be present and can be managed with `tridentctl`.

```
kubectl get tbc backend-tbc-ontap-san -n trident -o wide
NAME                    BACKEND NAME        BACKEND UUID
PHASE   STATUS    STORAGE DRIVER   DELETION POLICY
backend-tbc-ontap-san   ontap-san-backend   81abcb27-ea63-49bb-b606-
0a5315ac5f82   Bound   Success   ontap-san        delete

# Patch value of deletionPolicy to retain
kubectl patch tbc backend-tbc-ontap-san --type=merge -p
'{"spec":{"deletionPolicy":"retain"}}' -n trident
tridentbackendconfig.trident.netapp.io/backend-tbc-ontap-san patched

#Confirm the value of deletionPolicy
kubectl get tbc backend-tbc-ontap-san -n trident -o wide
NAME                    BACKEND NAME        BACKEND UUID
PHASE   STATUS    STORAGE DRIVER   DELETION POLICY
backend-tbc-ontap-san   ontap-san-backend   81abcb27-ea63-49bb-b606-
0a5315ac5f82   Bound   Success   ontap-san        retain
```

Do not proceed to the next step unless `deletionPolicy` is set to `retain`.

Step 2: Delete the `TridentBackendConfig` CR

The final step is to delete the `TridentBackendConfig` CR. After confirming the `deletionPolicy` is set to `retain`, you can go ahead with the deletion:

```
kubectl delete tbc backend-tbc-ontap-san -n trident
tridentbackendconfig.trident.netapp.io "backend-tbc-ontap-san" deleted

tridentctl get backend ontap-san-backend -n trident
+-------------------+----------------
+--------------------------------------+--------+---------+
|       NAME        | STORAGE DRIVER |                 UUID
| STATE  | VOLUMES |
+-------------------+----------------
+--------------------------------------+--------+---------+
| ontap-san-backend | ontap-san      | 81abcb27-ea63-49bb-b606-
0a5315ac5f82 | online |      33 |
+-------------------+----------------
+--------------------------------------+--------+---------+
```

Upon the deletion of the `TridentBackendConfig` object, Astra Trident simply removes it without actually deleting the backend itself.

Copyright information

Trademark information