

Nagios Log Server - Monitoring Using NCPA + Nagios XI

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Overview

This KB article shows you how to monitor a Nagios Log Server cluster using the Nagios Cross-Platform Agent (NCPA) and Nagios XI.

Note: Images in this article use the Nagios XI dark theme to help distinguish between XI and Log Server. Webpages may not look the same if you are using a different theme.

Requirements

This KB article assumes that you have:

- Nagios Log Server \geq 2.1.0
- Nagios XI (any version) with NCPA Wizard version \geq 2.2.0 (shipped with XI 5.7+)
- A valid network connection between these servers

Managing the Agent

The Nagios Cross-Platform Agent (NCPA) now ships by default with Nagios Log Server. A specialized management page is also available, at **Admin > Management > Monitor Backend**.

On the page you should see 3 sections:

1. At the top, a button labelled **Open NCPA Interface**. This will open the main web interface for the agent.

2. A token management form.

Setting the token with this form will allow you to apply the same token to every agent on the cluster with one click.

If you're using HTTPS, make sure that you've accepted the certificate in your browser, otherwise this will only work for the current machine.

3. The process list.

At the bottom, you will see a display that allows you to view and manage the NCPA processes for all members of the cluster.

You can switch the viewed instance by clicking the drop-down menu labelled **Instance**.

The screenshot shows the Nagios Log Server Admin interface. The top navigation bar includes 'Home', 'Dashboards', 'Reports', 'Alerting', 'Configure', 'Help', and 'Admin' (circled in red). A search bar for logs is on the right. The left sidebar has a 'Management' section with 'Monitor Backend (NCPA)' circled in red. The main content area is titled 'Monitor Backend (via NCPA)' and contains the following sections:

- Open NCPA Interface** button with a '1.' annotation.
- Tokens** section: 'When saved, these tokens will be applied to all instances.' Below is a form for 'NCPA API Token' with a 'Save' button and a '2.' annotation.
- Processes** section: A dropdown menu for 'Instance' showing '[This Instance] 192.168.152.5 (localhost.localdomain)' with a '3.' annotation. Below is a list of processes: 'NCPA Active Check Listener' and 'NCPA Passive Check Sender', each with 'Restart' and 'Stop' buttons.

Monitoring

To monitor the NLS cluster, go to your Nagios XI Interface, and go to **Configure > Configuration Wizards > NCPA**.

Most of this configuration wizard should be self-explanatory. However, at the bottom of the second page there is now a **Plugins** section which is needed for monitoring NLS.

Plugins

If you have provided plugins on the client that you would like NCPA to run, specify them and the arguments to be passed here.

Service Description	Plugin Name	Plugin Arguments ?
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Cluster Status	check_es_cluster_status.sh	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> JVM Heap Usage	check_es_jvm_heap.sh	-w 80 -c 90

[Add Another Plugin Check](#)

To select a plugin, click the list icon to the right of the second box.

If `check_es_cluster_status.sh` is selected, Plugin Arguments should be left blank.

This plugin simply checks the Elasticsearch cluster status, and alerts OK/WARNING/CRITICAL based on whether status is GREEN/YELLOW/RED. Since 1-instance clusters YELLOW at be an OK status.

If `check_es_jvm_heap.sh` is selected, warning and critical thresholds should be specified in the usual way, and expressed as a percentage of the total desired elasticsearch JVM instance, you may choose arguments like:

```
-w 80 -c 90
```

When finished, click the **Next** button until configuration is applied. If you've done everything correctly, you should see the normal NCPA service status alongside the custom plugins:

Service Status

Host: 192.168.152.5

Up	Down	Unreachable	Pending
1	0	0	0
Unhandled	Problems	All	
0	0	1	

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Ok	Warning	Unknown
1	0	0
Unhandled	Problems	
0	0	

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Showing 1-10 of 10 total records

Host	Service	Status	Duration	Attempt	Last Check	Status Information
192.168.152.5	Cluster Status	Ok	N/A	1/5	2019-09-16 15:27:24	OK: Cluster status is YELLOW but there is only one instance in the clu
	CPU Usage	Pending	N/A	1/5	N/A	Service check is pending... Check is scheduled for 2019-09-16 15:29:4
	Disk Usage on /	Pending	N/A	1/5	N/A	Service check is pending... Check is scheduled for 2019-09-16 15:29:7
	Disk Usage on /boot	Ok	N/A	1/5	2019-09-16 15:27:12	OK: Used disk space was 22.20 % (Used: 0.22 GiB, Free: 0.77 GiB, T
	ens33 Bandwidth - Inbound	Ok	N/A	1/5	2019-09-16 15:27:05	OK: Bytes_recv was 0 MB/s
	ens33 Bandwidth - Outbound	Pending	N/A	1/5	N/A	Service check is pending... Check is scheduled for 2019-09-16 15:29:2
	JVM Heap Usage	Ok	N/A	1/5	2019-09-16 15:27:12	OK: Maximum heap_used_percent is 18
	Memory Usage	Pending	N/A	1/5	N/A	Service check is pending... Check is scheduled for 2019-09-16 15:28:7
	Swap Usage	Pending	N/A	1/5	N/A	Service check is pending... Check is scheduled for 2019-09-16 15:29:8
	User Count	Pending	N/A	1/5	N/A	Service check is pending... Check is scheduled for 2019-09-16 15:30:7

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Final Thoughts

For any support related questions please visit the [Nagios Support Forums](#) at:

<http://support.nagios.com/forum/>

