NAME

zfs-snapshot - create snapshots of ZFS datasets

SYNOPSIS

zfs snapshot [-r] [-o property=value]<?> dataset@snapname<?>

DESCRIPTION

All previous modifications by successful system calls to the file system are part of the snapshots. Snapshots are taken atomically, so that all snapshots correspond to the same moment in time. **zfs snap** can be used as an alias for **zfs snapshot**. See the *Snapshots* section of zfsconcepts(7) for details.

-o *property=value*

Set the specified property; see **zfs create** for details.

-r Recursively create snapshots of all descendent datasets

EXAMPLES

Example 1: Creating a ZFS Snapshot

The following command creates a snapshot named *yesterday*. This snapshot is mounted on demand in the *.zfs/snapshot* directory at the root of the *pool/home/bob* file system.

zfs snapshot pool/home/bob@yesterday

Example 2: Creating and Destroying Multiple Snapshots

The following command creates snapshots named *yesterday* of *pool/home* and all of its descendent file systems. Each snapshot is mounted on demand in the *.zfs/snapshot* directory at the root of its file system. The second command destroys the newly created snapshots.

zfs snapshot -r pool/home@yesterday
zfs destroy -r pool/home@yesterday

Example 3: Promoting a ZFS Clone

The following commands illustrate how to test out changes to a file system, and then replace the original file system with the changed one, using clones, clone promotion, and renaming:

zfs create pool/project/production

populate /pool/project/production with data
zfs snapshot pool/project/production@today
zfs clone pool/project/production@today pool/project/beta

make changes to /pool/project/beta and test them

zfs promote pool/project/beta

zfs rename pool/project/production pool/project/legacy

zfs rename pool/project/beta pool/project/production

once the legacy version is no longer needed, it can be destroyed
zfs destroy pool/project/legacy

Example 4: Performing a Rolling Snapshot

The following example shows how to maintain a history of snapshots with a consistent naming scheme. To keep a week's worth of snapshots, the user destroys the oldest snapshot, renames the remaining snapshots, and then creates a new snapshot, as follows:

zfs destroy -r pool/users@7daysago # zfs rename -r pool/users@6daysago @7daysago # zfs rename -r pool/users@5daysago @6daysago # zfs rename -r pool/users@4daysago @5daysago # zfs rename -r pool/users@3daysago @4daysago # zfs rename -r pool/users@2daysago @3daysago # zfs rename -r pool/users@yesterday @2daysago # zfs rename -r pool/users@today @yesterday # zfs snapshot -r pool/users@today

SEE ALSO

zfs-bookmark(8), zfs-clone(8), zfs-destroy(8), zfs-diff(8), zfs-hold(8), zfs-rename(8), zfs-rollback(8), zfs-send(8)