

## Redmine - Defect #1852

### Use regular POST (non-ajax) for wiki preview

2008-09-04 02:33 - Jim Jones

<b>Status:</b>	Closed	<b>Start date:</b>	2008-09-04
<b>Priority:</b>	Normal	<b>Due date:</b>	
<b>Assignee:</b>		<b>% Done:</b>	0%
<b>Category:</b>		<b>Estimated time:</b>	0.00 hour
<b>Target version:</b>		<b>Affected version:</b>	
<b>Resolution:</b>	Wont fix		
<b>Description</b> <p>I'm filing this as a bug because it has bitten me for the third time and I'm certainly not alone.</p> <p>Currently the wiki preview is AJAXified, this makes it very easy to lose all your work in progress by performing one of the following actions by accident:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Hit the back-button</li><li>• Middle click anywhere outside the textarea (middle-click means "load URL in copy-buffer" in most browser)</li></ul> <p>Commonly you'll spend quite some time in the edit/preview cycle before saving a new revision. Losing all changes to a single misclick is a very frustrating expirience.</p> <p>I propose the following fixes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Replace the AJAX preview with a normal POST-preview or at least add the POST-preview as an option</li><li>• Use javascript to display a warning dialog when the back-button is pressed (Note: This does <b>not</b> prevent the middle-click accident)</li></ul>			
<b>Related issues:</b> <p>Related to Redmine - Feature #2910: Warning on leaving edited issue/wiki page... <b>Closed</b> <b>2009-03-05</b></p>			

### History

#### #1 - 2008-09-04 23:56 - Alteran Ancient

How about add some javascript to bring-up a verification message if the user attempts the following, in the belief that they could be doing-so by accident.

#### #2 - 2008-09-05 00:21 - Jim Jones

Alteran Ancient wrote:

How about add some javascript to bring-up a verification message if the user attempts the following, in the belief that they could be doing-so by accident.

If all possible user mistakes can be caught with javascript then I'm fine with that.  
But I think at least the middle-click issue is hard to detect.

Frankly, there should just be a straight, non-AJAX preview. AJAX can be helpful and nice - but not in this case.

#### #3 - 2008-09-05 08:40 - Paul Rivier

Jim Jones wrote:

Frankly, there should just be a straight, non-AJAX preview. AJAX can be helpful and nice - but not in this case.

How is that related to the use of ajax ?

#### #4 - 2008-09-05 15:39 - Jim Jones

Paul Rivier wrote:

Jim Jones wrote:

Frankly, there should just be a straight, non-AJAX preview. AJAX can be helpful and nice - but not in this case.

How is that related to the use of ajax ?

Try it:

1. Start editing a wiki-page in redmine
2. Enter some characters
3. Hit the preview-link
4. Hit the browser back-button (or navigate away from that page by other means)
5. Hit the browser forward-button

Result: All your editing is lost irrecoverably.

Counter-example:

1. Go to any website that implements regular POST-preview, e.g.: <http://moinmo.in/WikiSandBox>
2. Start editing that page
3. Hit the preview-link
4. Hit the browser back- and forward-buttons in any order you like

Result: There is no way to lose your edit-buffer after having pressed "Preview" at least once. Firefox even remembers it across browser crashes.

To clarify again: This is not cosmetics, it's a **serious** usability issue. Imagine deploying redmine to a non-technical audience (e.g. for company-wide use). Now imagine having to explain why your boss just lost half an hour of editing only because he hit the back-button by accident.

Ofcourse the same problem applies to the ticket editing and any other area where AJAX-preview is used as well. I think it's not as serious of a problem there because you don't normally go through the edit/preview cycle as often as with a wiki-page, thus accidents are less likely to happen. Nonetheless it would ofcourse be advisable to fix this problem across all of redmine, for consistency.

#### #5 - 2009-06-09 11:51 - Péter Major

Hi,

True, it's very hard to use the editor like this, but nothing happened since 9 months. :( Any progress or something??

#### #6 - 2010-12-21 08:21 - Andreas Huggel

ping

#### #7 - 2010-12-21 23:58 - Terence Mill

Duplicate of Issue [#2910](#).

Checkout [Drafts plugin](#)

#### #8 - 2010-12-23 16:45 - Jean-Philippe Lang

*- Subject changed from Wiki AJAX preview is a bad idea to Use regular POST (non-ajax) for wiki preview*

I've already been hit by this problem but using a standard POST for preview would have disadvantages as well:

- attachments would be uselessly uploaded are more than that, you'd lost your attachments selection
- you'd lost the current textarea position (can be **really** annoying when editing long text)
- slower previews

I think that a javascript warning when leaving the page without saving would be a good option.

#### #9 - 2010-12-23 18:35 - Mischa The Evil

Jean-Philippe Lang wrote:

[...]

I think that a javascript warning when leaving the page without saving would be a good option.

I'd vote +1 for that solution to this persistent issue, seeing all the related issues.

#### #10 - 2010-12-24 12:09 - Terence Mill

I think that a javascript warning when leaving the page without saving would be a good option.

+1

**#11 - 2010-12-29 22:07 - Jean-Philippe Lang**

- *Status changed from New to Closed*
- *Resolution set to Wont fix*

Thanks for the feedback. I'm closing this in favor of [#2910](#) planned for 1.2.0.