Redmine - Defect #31387

Don't rescue Exception class

2019-05-17 20:51 - Pavel Rosický

Status: Closed

Priority: Normal

Assignee: Go MAEDA

Category: Code cleanup/refactoring

Target version: 4.1.0

Resolution: Fixed

Start date:

% Done:

Due date:

Estimated time: 0.00

0.00 hour

0%

Affected version:

Description

https://stackoverflow.com/questions/10048173/why-is-it-bad-style-to-rescue-exception-e-in-ruby

https://thoughtbot.com/blog/rescue-standarderror-not-exception

Exception is the root of Ruby's exception hierarchy, so when you rescue Exception you rescue from everything, including subclasses such as SyntaxError, LoadError, and Interrupt.

Rescuing Interrupt prevents the user from using CTRL-C to exit the program.

I've seen a recent addition to redmine

```
def destroy
   IssueStatus.find(params[:id]).destroy
   redirect_to issue_statuses_path
rescue Exception => e
   flash[:error] = 1(:error_unable_delete_issue_status, ERB::Util.h(e.message))
   redirect_to issue_statuses_path
end
```

https://github.com/redmine/redmine/blob/aed2d197a0e897e8a83013384b95353e110bd2f8/app/controllers/issue_statuses_controller.rb#L77

please replace these "safe" exceptions. StandardError is usually more than sufficient.

Related issues:

Related to Redmine - Feature #31361: Include a reason in the error message wh...

Closed

Related to Redmine - Patch #29441: Remove code related to JRuby and unsupport...

Closed

Associated revisions

Revision 18187 - 2019-05-22 01:53 - Go MAEDA

Custom Exception classes should inherit StandardError instead of Exception (#31387).

Patch by Go MAEDA.

Revision 18197 - 2019-05-25 08:50 - Go MAEDA

Don't rescue Exception class (#31387).

Patch by Go MAEDA and Pavel Rosický.

History

#1 - 2019-05-18 06:55 - Go MAEDA

Thank you for pointing it out.

Maybe we should also check the following lines, shouldn't we?

```
$ egrep -rn 'rescue\s+Exception' app config lib extra
app/models/mailer.rb:705: rescue Exception => e
```

2025-07-07 1/5

```
app/models/repository/git.rb:87: rescue Exception => e
app/models/repository.rb:385: rescue Exception => e
app/models/repository.rb:395: rescue Exception => e
app/models/repository.rb:405:    rescue Exception => e
app/models/mail_handler.rb:56:    rescue Exception => e
app/controllers/auth_sources_controller.rb:63: rescue Exception => e
config/routes.rb:358: rescue Exception => e
lib/redmine/plugin.rb:421: rescue Exception => e lib/redmine/plugin.rb:432: rescue Exception => e lib/redmine/plugin.rb:443: rescue Exception => e
lib/redmine/scm/adapters/mercurial_adapter.rb:95: rescue Exception => e lib/redmine/scm/adapters/subversion_adapter.rb:118: rescue Exception
lib/redmine/scm/adapters/subversion_adapter.rb:254: rescue Exception => e

///redmine/scm/adapters/abstract_adapter.rb:285: rescue Exception => err
                                                         rescue Exception => e rescue Exception => e
lib/tasks/email.rake:167: rescue Exception => e
extra/svn/reposman.rb:57: rescue Exception => e
extra/mail_handler/rdm-mailhandler.rb:207: rescue Exception => e
```

#2 - 2019-05-20 12:01 - Go MAEDA

- Related to Feature #31361: Include a reason in the error message when an issue status cannot be deleted added

#3 - 2019-05-20 13:46 - Go MAEDA

- File 0001-Custom-Exception-classes-should-inherit-StandardErro.patch added
- File 0002-Don-t-rescue-Exception.patch added
- Category set to Code cleanup/refactoring
- Target version set to Candidate for next minor release

Here are patches to fix not to raise/rescue Exception. I hope someone to review these patches.

#4 - 2019-05-20 14:09 - Pavel Rosický

thanks, there's a typo in config/routes.rb

it should be rescue SyntaxError, StandardError => e

#5 - 2019-05-20 14:26 - Go MAEDA

- File 0002-Don-t-rescue-Exception.patch added

Pavel Rosický wrote:

it should be rescue SyntaxError, StandardError => e

Thanks, updated the patch. Could you tell me why it caches SyntaxError? To detect syntax error in plugins' routes.rb?

#6 - 2019-05-20 14:26 - Go MAEDA

- File deleted (0002-Don-t-rescue-Exception.patch)

#7 - 2019-05-20 14:59 - Pavel Rosický

exceptions have a hierarchy

```
Exception
NoMemoryError
ScriptError
LoadError
NotImplementedError
SyntaxError
SignalException
```

2025-07-07 2/5

```
Interrupt
StandardError
 ArgumentError
 TOError
    EOFError
  IndexError
 LocalJumpError
 NameError
   NoMethodError
 RangeError
   FloatDomainError
 RegexpError
 RuntimeError
 SecuritvError
  SystemCallError
 SystemStackError
 ThreadError
 TypeError
  ZeroDivisionError
SystemExit
```

as you can see SyntaxError doesn't inherit from StandardError. It's a common mistake and the original intention was to show a better message that there's an error in a plugin instead of a long and confusing backtrace that Ruby would usually print.

#8 - 2019-05-21 05:33 - Go MAEDA

- Target version changed from Candidate for next minor release to 4.1.0

Setting the target version to 4.1.0.

#9 - 2019-05-21 16:41 - Go MAEDA

- Assignee set to Go MAEDA

#10 - 2019-05-22 09:59 - Go MAEDA

Pavel Rosický wrote:

as you can see SyntaxError doesn't inherit from StandardError. It's a common mistake and the original intention was to show a better message that there's an error in a plugin instead of a long and confusing backtrace that Ruby would usually print.

You are right.

With catching SyntaxError:

An error occurred while loading the routes definition of redmine_message_customize plugin (/Users/maeda/redmin es/redmine-trunk/plugins/redmine_message_customize/config/routes.rb): (eval):7: syntax error, unexpected end-of-input, expecting '}'.

Without catching SyntaxError:

ShowHide

e environment!'

```
Traceback (most recent call last):
   47: from bin/rails:4:in `<main>'
    46: from bin/rails:4:in `require'
   45: from /Users/maeda/redmines/gems/ruby/2.6.0/gems/railties-5.2.3/lib/rails/commands.rb:18:in `<top (requ
ired) > '
    44: from /Users/maeda/redmines/gems/ruby/2.6.0/gems/railties-5.2.3/lib/rails/command.rb:46:in `invoke'
    43: from /Users/maeda/redmines/gems/ruby/2.6.0/gems/railties-5.2.3/lib/rails/command/base.rb:65:in `perfor
    42: from /Users/maeda/redmines/gems/ruby/2.6.0/gems/thor-0.20.3/lib/thor.rb:387:in `dispatch'
    41: from /Users/maeda/redmines/gems/ruby/2.6.0/gems/thor-0.20.3/lib/thor/invocation.rb:126:in `invoke_comm
and'
    40: from /Users/maeda/redmines/gems/ruby/2.6.0/gems/thor-0.20.3/lib/thor/command.rb:27:in `run'
    39: from /Users/maeda/redmines/gems/ruby/2.6.0/gems/railties-5.2.3/lib/rails/commands/console/console_comm
and.rb:95:in `perform'
    38: from /Users/maeda/redmines/gems/ruby/2.6.0/gems/railties-5.2.3/lib/rails/command/actions.rb:15:in `req
uire_application_and_environment!'
    37: from /Users/maeda/redmines/gems/ruby/2.6.0/gems/railties-5.2.3/lib/rails/command/actions.rb:28:in `req
uire_environment!'
    36: from /Users/maeda/redmines/gems/ruby/2.6.0/gems/railties-5.2.3/lib/rails/application.rb:337:in `requir
```

2025-07-07 3/5

```
35: from /Users/maeda/redmines/gems/ruby/2.6.0/gems/railties-5.2.3/lib/rails/application.rb:337:in `requir
ا ۾
          34: from /Users/maeda/redmines/redmine-trunk/config/environment.rb:16:in `<top (required)>'
          33: from \ / Users/maeda/redmines/gems/ruby/2.6.0/gems/railties-5.2.3/lib/rails/application.rb: \\ 361: in `initia and initia and initia and initia and initia and initia and initial and
lize!'
          32: from /Users/maeda/redmines/gems/ruby/2.6.0/gems/railties-5.2.3/lib/rails/initializable.rb:60:in `run_i
nitializers'
          31: from /Users/maeda/.rbenv/versions/2.6.1/lib/ruby/2.6.0/tsort.rb:205:in `tsort_each'
          30: from /Users/maeda/.rbenv/versions/2.6.1/lib/ruby/2.6.0/tsort.rb:226:in `tsort_each'
          29: from /Users/maeda/.rbenv/versions/2.6.1/lib/ruby/2.6.0/tsort.rb:347:in `each_strongly_connected_compon
ent '
          28: from /Users/maeda/.rbenv/versions/2.6.1/lib/ruby/2.6.0/tsort.rb:347:in `call'
          27: from /Users/maeda/.rbenv/versions/2.6.1/lib/ruby/2.6.0/tsort.rb:347:in `each'
          26: from /Users/maeda/.rbenv/versions/2.6.1/lib/ruby/2.6.0/tsort.rb:349:in `block in each_strongly_connect
ed component'
         25: from /Users/maeda/.rbenv/versions/2.6.1/lib/ruby/2.6.0/tsort.rb:431:in `each_strongly_connected_compon
ent_from'
          24: from /Users/maeda/.rbenv/versions/2.6.1/lib/ruby/2.6.0/tsort.rb:350:in `block (2 levels) in each_stron
gly_connected_component'
          23: from /Users/maeda/.rbenv/versions/2.6.1/lib/ruby/2.6.0/tsort.rb:228:in `block in tsort_each'
          22: from /Users/maeda/redmines/gems/ruby/2.6.0/gems/railties-5.2.3/lib/rails/initializable.rb:61:in `block
  in run_initializers'
          21: from /Users/maeda/redmines/gems/ruby/2.6.0/gems/railties-5.2.3/lib/rails/initializable.rb:32:in `run'
          20: from /Users/maeda/redmines/gems/ruby/2.6.0/gems/railties-5.2.3/lib/rails/initializable.rb:32:in `insta
nce exec!
          19: from \ / Users/maeda/redmines/gems/ruby/2.6.0/gems/railties-5.2.3/lib/rails/application/finisher.rb: \\ 130: interpretable from \ / Users/maeda/redmines/gems/railties-5.2.3/lib/rails/application/finisher.rb: \\ 130: interpretable from \ / Users/maeda/railties-5.2.3/lib/railties-5.2.3/lib/railties-5.2.3/lib/railties-5.2.3/lib/railties-5.2.3/lib/railties-5.2.3/lib/railties-5.2.3/lib/railties-5.2.3/lib/railties-5.2.3/lib/railties-5.2.3/lib/railties-5.2.3/lib/railties-5.2.3/lib/railties-5.2.3/lib/railties-5.2.3/lib/railties-5.2.3/lib/railties-5.2.3/lib/railties-5.2.3/lib/railties-5.2.3/lib/railties-5.2.3/lib/railties-5.2.3/lib/railties-5.2.3/lib/railties-5.2.3/lib/railties-5.2.3/lib/railties-5.2.3/lib/railties-5.2.3/lib/railties-5.2.3/lib/railties-5.2.3/lib/railties-5.2.3/lib/railties-5.2.3/lib/railties-5.2.3/lib/railties-5.2.3/lib/railties-5.2.3/lib/railties-5.
n `block in <module:Finisher>'
          18: from /Users/maeda/redmines/gems/ruby/2.6.0/gems/railties-5.2.3/lib/rails/application/routes_reloader.r
b:10:in `execute'
         17: \verb|from /Users/maeda/redmines/gems/ruby/2.6.0/gems/activesupport-5.2.3/lib/active\_support/file\_update\_chellowers/support-5.2.3/lib/active\_support-5.2.3/lib/active\_support-5.2.3/lib/active\_support-5.2.3/lib/active\_support-5.2.3/lib/active\_support-5.2.3/lib/active\_support-5.2.3/lib/active\_support-5.2.3/lib/active\_support-5.2.3/lib/active\_support-5.2.3/lib/active\_support-5.2.3/lib/active\_support-5.2.3/lib/active\_support-5.2.3/lib/active\_support-5.2.3/lib/active\_support-5.2.3/lib/active\_support-5.2.3/lib/active\_support-5.2.3/lib/active\_support-5.2.3/lib/active\_support-5.2.3/lib/active\_support-5.2.3/lib/active\_support-5.2.3/lib/active\_support-5.2.3/lib/active\_support-5.2.3/lib/active\_support-5.2.3/lib/active\_support-5.2.3/lib/active\_support-5.2.3/lib/active\_support-5.2.3/lib/active\_support-5.2.3/lib/active\_support-5.2.3/lib/active\_support-5.2.3/lib/active\_support-5.2.3/lib/active\_support-5.2.3/lib/active\_support-5.2.3/lib/active\_support-5.2.3/lib/active\_support-5.2.3/lib/active\_support-5.2.3/lib/active\_support-5.2.3/lib/active\_support-5.2.3/lib/active\_support-5.2.3/lib/active\_support-5.2.3/lib/active\_support-5.2.3/lib/active\_support-5.2.3/lib/active\_support-5.2.3/lib/active\_support-5.2.3/lib/active\_support-5.2.3/lib/active\_support-5.2.3/lib/active\_support-5.2.3/lib/active\_support-5.2.3/lib/active\_support-5.2.3/lib/active\_support-5.2.3/lib/active\_support-5.2.3/lib/active\_support-5.2.3/lib/active\_support-5.2.3/lib/active\_support-5.2.3/lib/active\_support-5.2.3/lib/active\_support-5.2.3/lib/active\_support-5.2.3/lib/active\_support-5.2.3/lib/active\_support-5.2.3/lib/active\_support-5.2.3/lib/active\_support-5.2.3/lib/active\_support-5.2.3/lib/active\_support-5.2.3/lib/active\_support-5.2.3/lib/active\_support-5.2.3/lib/active\_support-5.2.3/lib/active\_support-5.2.3/lib/active\_support-5.2.3/lib/active\_support-5.2.3/lib/active\_support-5.2.3/lib/active\_support-5.2.3/lib/active\_support-5.2.3/lib/active\_support-5.2.3/lib/active\_support-5.2.3/lib/active\_support-5.2.3/lib/active\_support-5.2.3/lib/active\_support-5.2.3/lib/active\_sup
cker.rb:83:in `execute'
         16: from /Users/maeda/redmines/gems/ruby/2.6.0/gems/railties-5.2.3/lib/rails/application/routes reloader.r
b:30:in `block in updater'
         15: from /Users/maeda/redmines/gems/ruby/2.6.0/gems/railties-5.2.3/lib/rails/application/routes_reloader.r
b:20:in `reload!'
         14: from /Users/maeda/redmines/gems/ruby/2.6.0/gems/railties-5.2.3/lib/rails/application/routes_reloader.r
b:41:in `load paths'
         13: from /Users/maeda/redmines/gems/ruby/2.6.0/gems/railties-5.2.3/lib/rails/application/routes_reloader.r
b:41:in `each'
          12: from /Users/maeda/redmines/gems/ruby/2.6.0/gems/railties-5.2.3/lib/rails/application/routes_reloader.r
b:41:in `block in load_paths'
          11: from /Users/maeda/redmines/gems/ruby/2.6.0/gems/activesupport-5.2.3/lib/active_support/dependencies.rb
:285:in `load'
         10: from /Users/maeda/redmines/gems/ruby/2.6.0/gems/activesupport-5.2.3/lib/active support/dependencies.rb
 :257:in `load_dependency'
            9: from /Users/maeda/redmines/gems/ruby/2.6.0/gems/activesupport-5.2.3/lib/active support/dependencies.rb
:285:in `block in load'
            8: from /Users/maeda/redmines/gems/ruby/2.6.0/gems/activesupport-5.2.3/lib/active_support/dependencies.rb
            7: from /Users/maeda/redmines/redmine-trunk/config/routes.rb:20:in `<top (required)>'
             6: from /Users/maeda/redmines/gems/ruby/2.6.0/gems/actionpack-5.2.3/lib/action_dispatch/routing/route_set
 .rb:414:in `draw'
            5: from /Users/maeda/redmines/gems/ruby/2.6.0/gems/actionpack-5.2.3/lib/action_dispatch/routing/route_set
 .rb:432:in `eval_block'
            4: from /Users/maeda/redmines/gems/ruby/2.6.0/gems/actionpack-5.2.3/lib/action dispatch/routing/route set
.rb:432:in `instance_exec'
            3: from /Users/maeda/redmines/redmine-trunk/config/routes.rb:355:in `block in <top (required)>'
            2: from /Users/maeda/redmines/redmine-trunk/config/routes.rb:355:in `glob'
           1: from /Users/maeda/redmines/redmine-trunk/config/routes.rb:359:in `block (2 levels) in <top (required)>
/Users/maeda/redmines/redmine-trunk/config/routes.rb:359:in `instance_eval': (eval):7: syntax error, unexpecte
```

#11 - 2019-05-25 03:05 - Go MAEDA

d end-of-input, expecting '}' (SyntaxError)

According to r6230, it seems that we have to catch Exception in lib/redmine/scm/adapters/abstract_adapter.rb unless we drop the support for JRuby.

```
Index: lib/redmine/scm/adapters/abstract_adapter.rb
--- lib/redmine/scm/adapters/abstract_adapter.rb (00000 6229)
+++ lib/redmine/scm/adapters/abstract_adapter.rb (00000 6230)
@@ -224,7 +224,11 @@
io.close_write
```

2025-07-07 4/5

```
block.call(io) if block_given?
    end
- rescue Errno::ENOENT => e
+ ## If scm command does not exist,
+ ## Linux JRuby 1.6.2 (ruby-1.8.7-p330) raises java.io.IOException
+ ## in production environment.
+ # rescue Errno::ENOENT => e
+ rescue Exception => e
    msg = strip_credential(e.message)
    # The command failed, log it and re-raise
    logmsg = "SCM command failed, "
```

#12 - 2019-05-25 03:08 - Go MAEDA

- Related to Patch #29441: Remove code related to JRuby and unsupported Ruby versions added

#13 - 2019-05-25 07:42 - Pavel Rosický

This was a fix for a very, very old jruby version. It should match MRI's behaviour now.

#14 - 2019-05-25 08:53 - Go MAEDA

- Subject changed from don't rescue Exception to Don't rescue Exception class
- Status changed from New to Closed
- Resolution set to Fixed

Committed the patch.

Pavel Rosický wrote:

This was a fix for a very, very old jruby version. It should match MRI's behaviour now.

Thank you for the advice. I committed the following code.

```
Index: lib/redmine/scm/adapters/abstract_adapter.rb
```

Files

| 0001-Custom-Exception-classes-should-inherit-StandardErro.patch | 3.78 KB | 2019-05-20 | Go MAEDA |
|---|---------|------------|----------|
| 0002-Don-t-rescue-Exception.patch | 19.3 KB | 2019-05-20 | Go MAEDA |

2025-07-07 5/5