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**TRILL Support of Point to Multipoint BFD  
draft-ietf-trill-p2mp-bfd-06**

**Abstract**

Point to multipoint (P2MP) BFD is designed to verify multipoint connectivity. This document specifies the support of P2MP BFD in TRILL. Similar to TRILL point-to-point BFD, BFD Control packets in TRILL P2MP BFD are transmitted using RBridge Channel message. This document updates [RFC 7175](#) and [RFC 7177](#).

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## [1.](#) Introduction

TRILL supports multicast forwarding. Applications based on TRILL multicast may need quick detection of multicast failures using P2MP BFD. This document specifies TRILL support of P2MP BFD.

To use P2MP BFD, the head end needs to periodically transmit BFD Control packets to all tails using TRILL multicast. A new RBridge Channel message is allocated for this purpose.

In order to execute the global protection of distribution used for multicast forwarding [[I-D.ietf-trill-resilient-trees](#)], the head needs to track the active status of tails [[I-D.ietf-bfd-multipoint-active-tail](#)]. If the tail loses connectivity as detected by not receiving the new RBridge Channel message from the head, the tail should notify the head of the lack of multipoint connectivity with unicast BFD Control packets. These unicast BFD Control packets are transmitted using the existing RBridge Channel message assigned to BFD Control [[RFC7175](#)].

This document updates [[RFC7177](#)] as specified in [Section 3](#) and updates [[RFC7175](#)] as specified in [Section 4](#) and [Section 5](#).

## [2.](#) Acronyms and Terminology



## **2.1. Acronyms**

Data Label: VLAN or Fine Grained Label [[RFC7172](#)].

BFD: Bidirectional Forwarding Detection

P2MP: Point to Multi-Point

TRILL: Transparent Interconnection of Lots of Links or Tunnelled Routing in the Link Layer

## **2.2. Terminology**

The key words "MUST", "MUST NOT", "REQUIRED", "SHALL", "SHALL NOT", "SHOULD", "SHOULD NOT", "RECOMMENDED", "MAY", and "OPTIONAL" in this document are to be interpreted as described in [[RFC2119](#)].

Familiarity with [[RFC6325](#)], [[RFC7175](#)], and [[RFC7178](#)] is assumed in this document.

## **3. Bootstrapping**

The TRILL adjacency mechanism bootstraps the establishment of one-hop TRILL BFD sessions [[RFC7177](#)]. Multi-hop sessions are expected to be configured by the network manager. A slight wording update to the second sentence in [Section 6 of \[RFC7177\]](#) is required.

It currently read:

If an RBridge supports BFD [[RFC7175](#)], it will have learned whether the other RBridge has BFD enabled by whether or not a BFD-Enabled TLV [[RFC6213](#)] was included in its Hellos.

Now it should read:

If an RBridge supports BFD [[RFC7175](#)] [this document], it will have learned whether the other RBridge has BFD enabled by whether or not a BFD-Enabled TLV [[RFC6213](#)] was included in its Hellos.

## **4. A New RBridge Channel Message for P2MP BFD**

RBridge Channel message protocol 0x002 is defined for TRILL point-to-point BFD Control packets in [[RFC7175](#)]. If the M bit of the TRILL Header of the RBridge channel packet containing a BFD Control packet is non-zero, the packet MUST be dropped [[RFC7175](#)]. In P2MP BFD, the head is required to probe tails using multicast. This means the M bit will be set to 1. For this reason, a new RBridge Channel message, whose protocol code point is TBD, is specified in this



document. An RBridge that supports P2MP BFD MUST support the new RBridge Channel message for P2MP BFD. The capability to support the RBridge Channel message for P2MP BFD, and therefore support performing P2MP BFD, is announced within the "RBridge Channel Protocols Sub-TLV" in LSPs [[RFC7176](#)].

As specified in [[RFC7178](#)], when the tail receives TRILL Data packets sent as BFD RBridge channel messages, it will absorb the packets itself rather than deliver these packets to its attached end-stations.

## **5. Discriminators and Packet Demultiplexing**

The processing in [Section 3.2 of \[RFC7175\]](#) applies except that the test on the M bit in the TRILL Header is reversed. If the M bit is zero, the packet is discarded. If the M bit is one, it is processed.

After the [Section 3.2 of \[RFC7175\]](#) processing, the tail demultiplexes incoming BFD packets based on a combination of the source address and My Discriminator as specified in [[I-D.ietf-bfd-multipoint](#)]. In addition to this combination, TRILL P2MP BFD requires that the tail use the Data Label, which is either the inner VLAN or the Fine Grained Label [[RFC7172](#)], for demultiplexing. If the tail needs to notify the head about the failure of a multipath, the tail is required to send unicast BFD Control packets using the same Data Label as used by the head.

## **6. Tracking Active Tails**

According to [[I-D.ietf-bfd-multipoint](#)], the head has a session of type MultipointHead that is bound to a multipoint path. Multipoint BFD Control packets are sent by this session over the multipoint path, and no BFD Control packets are received by it. Each tail dynamically creates a MultipointTail per a multipoint path. MultipointTail sessions receive BFD Control packets from the head over multipoint paths.

If the head is keeping track of some or all of the tails [[I-D.ietf-trill-resilient-trees](#)], it has a session of type MultipointClient per tail that it cares about [[I-D.ietf-bfd-multipoint-active-tail](#)]. See [[I-D.ietf-bfd-multipoint-active-tail](#)] for detail operations of tracking active tails.

## **7. Security Considerations**

Multipoint BFD provides its own authentication but does not provide encryption (see Security Considerations in [[I-D.ietf-bfd-](#)



multipoint])). As specified in this document, the point-to-multipoint BFD payloads are encapsulated in RBridge Channel messages which have been extended by [RFC7978] to provide security. However, [RFC7978], while it provides both authentication and encryption for point-to-point extended RBridge Channel messages, provides only authentication for multipoint RBridge Channel messages. Thus, there is little reason to use the [RFC7978] security mechanisms at this time. However, it is expected that a future document will provide for group keying; when that occurs, the use of RBridge Channel security will also be able to provide encryption and may be desirable.

For general multipoint BFD security considerations, see [I-D.ietf-bfd-multipoint].

For general RBridge Channel security considerations, see [RFC7178].

## 8. IANA Considerations

IANA is required to allocate a number from the Standards Action range of the RBridge Channel Protocols registry which is part of the Transparent Interconnection of Lots of Links (TRILL) Parameters. The number to be allocated is as follows:

| Protocol         | Number |
|------------------|--------|
| -----            | -----  |
| P2MP BFD Control | TBD    |

## 9. Acknowledgements

Authors would like to thank the comments and suggestions from Gayle Noble and Donald Eastlake.

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