

Deprecation Of The IPv6 Router Alert Option

draft-bonica-6man-deprecate-router-alert-02

Ron Bonica

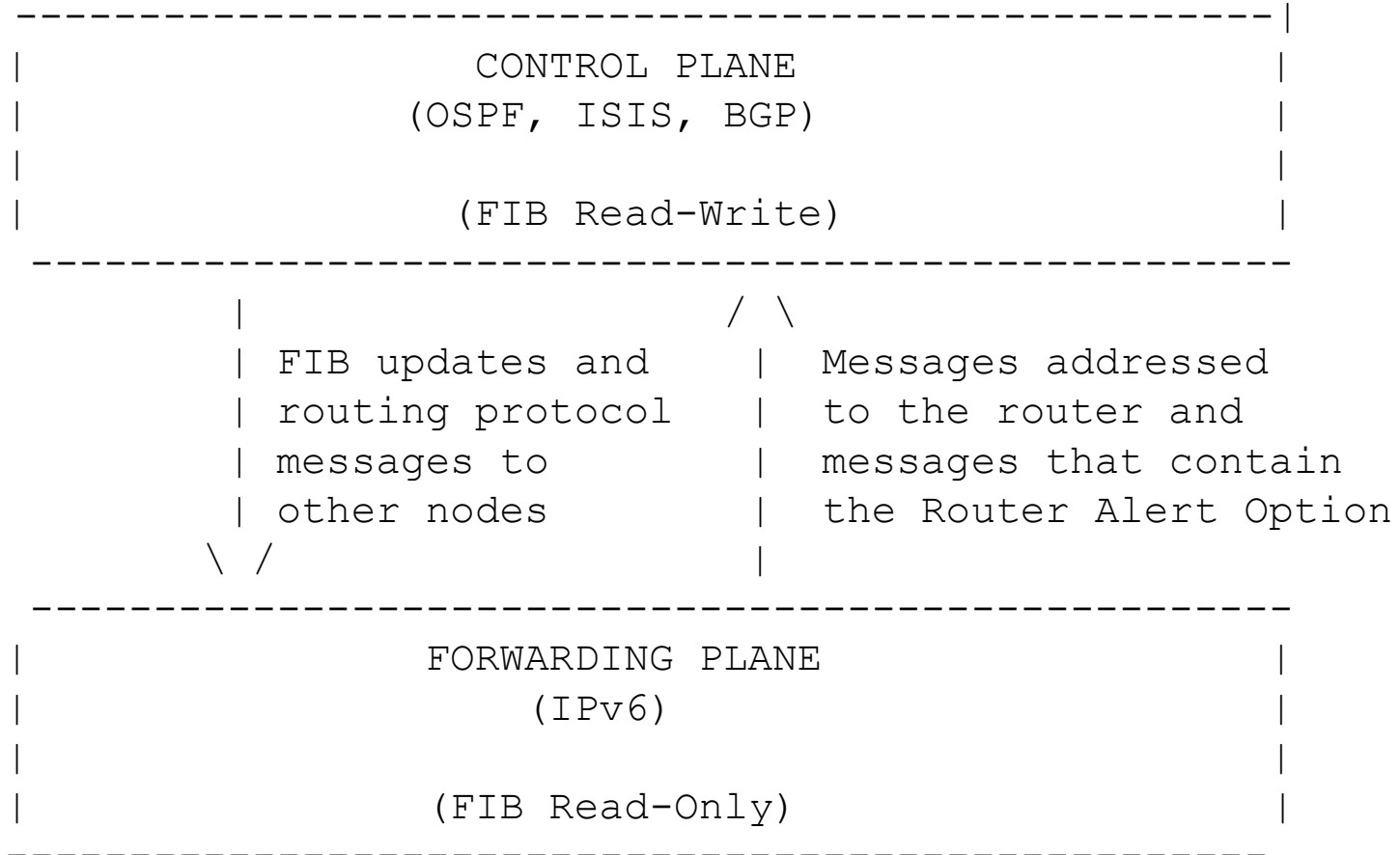
Juniper Networks

IETF 119

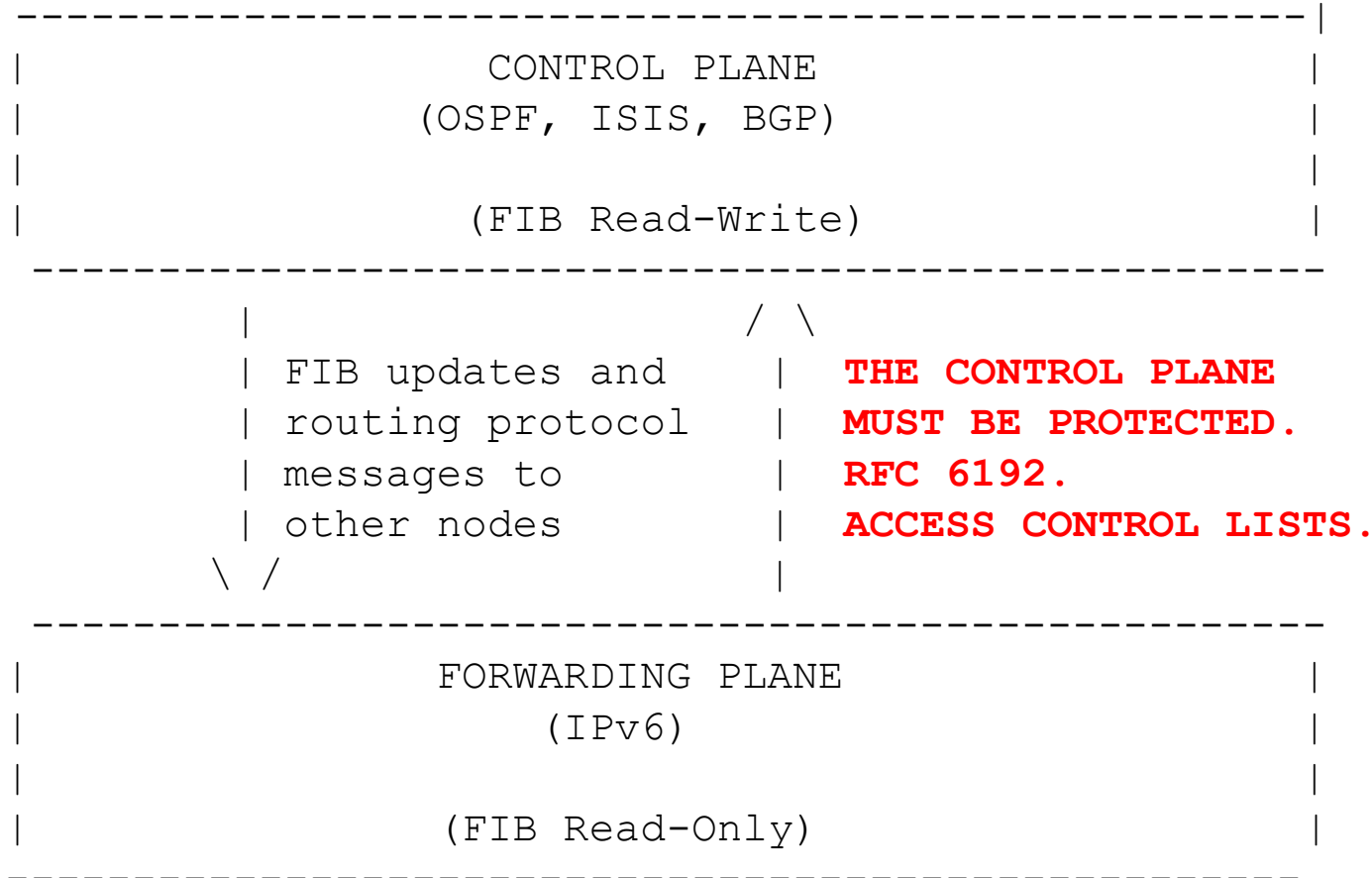
Goal

- This document deprecates the IPv6 Router Alert Option
- Protocols that use the Router Alert Option may continue to do so
 - Even in future versions (e.g., MLDv3)
- However, protocols standardized in the future must not use the Router Alert Option

Router Architecture



Router Architecture



Access Control Lists and the Router Alert Option

- Computationally expensive
- Need to parse the Hop-by-hop extension header
- Need to parse any options that might precede the Router Alert Option in the Hop-by-hop header
- Experience suggest that operators discard packets that might touch the control plane

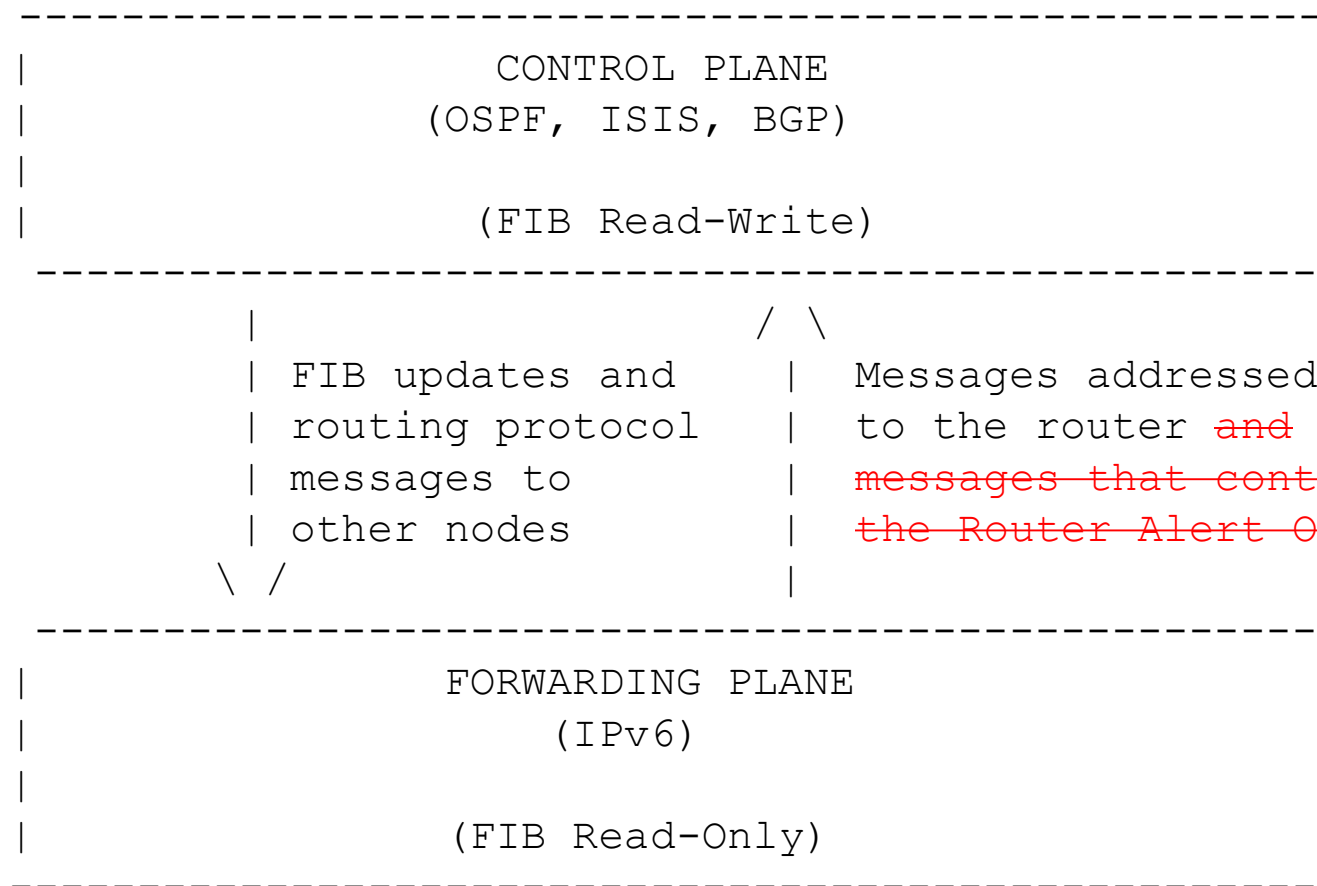
The Router Alert Option's Grim Future

Quotes from draft-ietf-6man-hbh-processing

- “The function of a Router Alert option results in the processing that this specification is proposing to eliminate, that is, to instruct a router to process the packet in the Control Plane.”
- “One approach would be to deprecate this, because current usage beyond the local network appears to be limited, and packets containing Hop-by-Hop options are frequently dropped.”
- “Implementations of the IP Router Alert option SHOULD offer the configuration option to simply ignore the presence of "IP Router Alert" in IPv4 and IPv6 packets' [RFC6398]”

NOTE: draft-ietf-6man-hbh-processing does not deprecate the Router Alert Option

Router Architecture (So, what's left?)



Packet Snooping
If no other option
Is available

Ask

- Adopt this document as a WG item