

ESXi - Fixing Inaccessible NFS Share

When your NFS share drops off in ESX, and all the VMS show xxxxx (inaccessible), the ESX host probably lost comms with the NFS share.

NOTE: See bottom of article for esx243 NFS script.

To fix this isn't a simple right-click reconnect, unfortunately.
So, here goes...

Open a Putty session to the ESX host as the root user.

Run this to list NFS shares:

```
esxcli storage nfs list
```

It might not come up with anything. No worries.

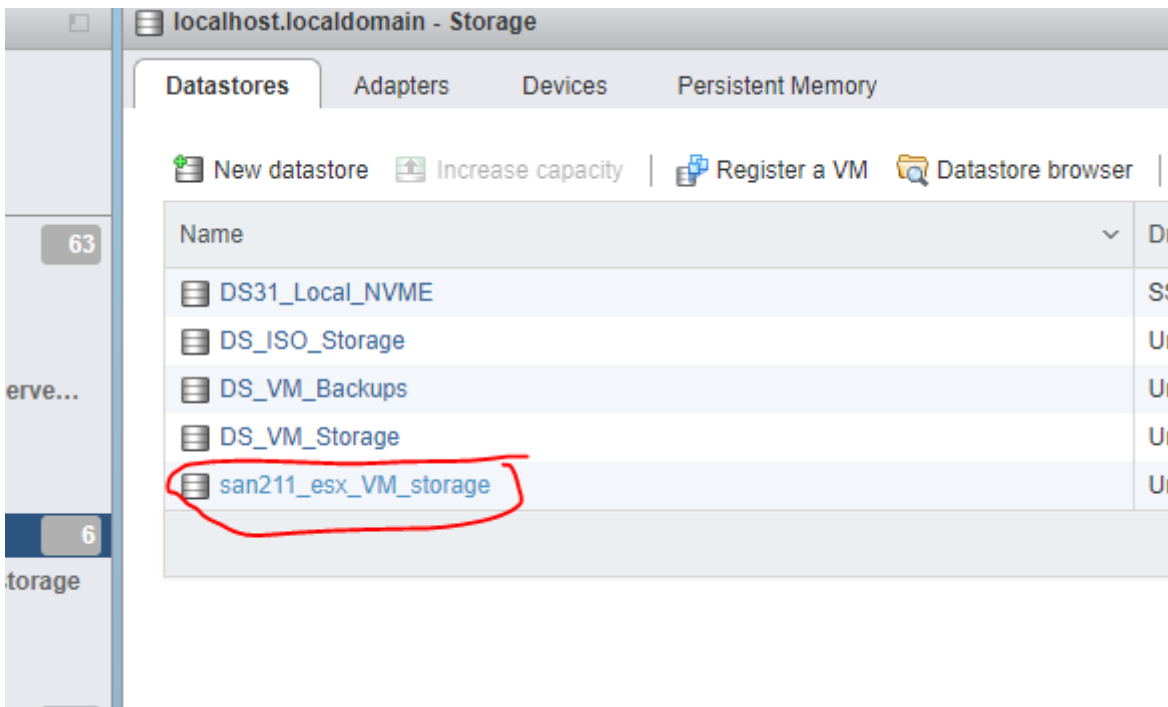
If your shares are using NFS4, use this command, instead:

```
esxcli storage nfs41 list
```

As reference, here's what the storage list normally looks like:

```
[root@esx243:~] esxcli storage nfs41 list
Volume Name      Host(s)      Share                                     Accessible Mounted Read-Only Security isFE Hardware Acceleration
-----
san216_esx_VM_storage 10.55.1.2    /mnt/zfs_mirror42/san216_esx_VM_storage true    true    false AUTH_SYS false Not Supported
DS_VM_Storage       10.55.0.2    /mnt/zfs_z2/esx_VM_storage      true    true    false AUTH_SYS false Not Supported
DS_VM_Backups       10.55.0.2    /mnt/zfs_z2/esx_VM_Backups      true    true    false AUTH_SYS false Not Supported
DS_ISO_Storage      10.55.0.2    /mnt/zfs_z2/esx_iso_storage     true    true    false AUTH_SYS false Not Supported
[root@esx243:~] █
```

Open a web session to your ESX host, and copy out the datastore name (the inaccessible one), like this:



Now, delete the inaccessible share by running the following from the Putty session:

```
esxcli storage nfs remove -v DATASTORE_NAME
```

NOTE: Replace `DATASTORE_NAME` with the name of the datastore you got from the ESX host web UI.

The above command will forcibly remove the NFS share.
You should be able to confirm it is gone from the web UI.

Once it is gone, you need to re-add the datastore by creating a new one.

The config dialog would look like this:

New datastore - san216_esx_VM_storage - san216_esx_VM_storage - san216_esx_VM_storage

✓ 1 Select creation type
2 Provide NFS mount details
3 Ready to complete

Provide NFS mount details

Provide the details of the NFS share you wish to mount

Name	san216_esx_VM_storage
NFS server	10.55.1.2
NFS share	/mnt/zfs_san216_esx_VM_storagemirror42/
NFS version	☐ NFS 3 ☒ NFS 4
Username	
Password	

Back Next Finish Cancel

Once done, you should be able to refresh the web UI and the “inaccessible” states will slowly go away as VMs are scanned.

The add datastore can also be scripted by doing the add from the command, of this form:

```
esxcli storage nfs add -H HOST -s ShareName/MountPoint -v DATASTORE_NAME
```

Here’s a script for fixing the inaccessible NFS share of SAN216 on ESX243 whenever the power goes out:

```
esxcli storage nfs remove -v san216_esx_VM_storage  
  
esxcli storage nfs41 add -H 10.55.1.2 -s /mnt/zfs_mirror42/san216_esx_VM_storage -v san216_esx_VM_storage
```

Here’s a script for fixing the inaccessible NFS share of SAN211 on ESX243 whenever the power goes out:

```
esxcli storage nfs remove -v san211_esx_VM_storage  
  
esxcli storage nfs41 add -H 10.55.0.2 -s /mnt/zfs_mirror/san211_esx_VM_storage -v san211_esx_VM_storage
```

Fixing SAN211 Shares

If the datastores from SAN211 are showing as inaccessible, run these to remove and readd each one.

This one will remove and readd the ISO datastore...

```
esxcli storage nfs41 remove --volume-name DS_ISO_Storage
```

```
esxcli storage nfs41 add \  
--hosts 10.55.0.2 \  
--share /mnt/zfs_z2/esx_iso_storage \  
--volume-name DS_ISO_Storage
```

This one will remove and readd the VM backup datastore...

```
esxcli storage nfs41 remove --volume-name DS_VM_Backups
```

```
esxcli storage nfs41 add \  
--hosts 10.55.0.2 \  
--share /mnt/zfs_z2/esx_VM_Backups \  
--volume-name DS_VM_Backups
```

This one will remove and readd the ISO datastore...

```
esxcli storage nfs41 remove --volume-name DS_VM_Storage
```

```
esxcli storage nfs41 add \  
--hosts 10.55.0.2 \  
--share /mnt/zfs_z2/esx_VM_storage \  
--volume-name DS_VM_Storage
```

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