

Re: (feature change request) remove link-layer generated routes from netstat -r

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- *From:* Nikos Vassiliadis <[nvass@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx](mailto:nvass@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx)>
  - *Date:* Fri, 24 Feb 2006 11:02:07 +0200
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On Thursday 23 February 2006 18:33, John Baldwin wrote:

On Thursday 23 February 2006 02:56, Nikos Vassiliadis wrote:

On Thursday 23 February 2006 07:06, Eugene Grosbein wrote:

On Wed, Feb 22, 2006 at 03:50:17PM +0200, Nikos Vassiliadis wrote:

netstat -r prints link-layer generated routes and many times the output becomes somehow obscure. For example:

```
root@brad:0:/usr/home/src/FreeBSD-6/src/usr.bin/netstat#  
netstat  
-ranfinet Routing tables
```

Internet:

```
Destination Gateway Flags Refs Use Netif  
Expire default 10.1.1.244 UGS 0 31016  
rl0 10.1.1/24 link#1 UC 0 0  
rl0 10.1.1.181 00:0f:1f:fb:02:f5 UHLW 1 0  
rl0 10.1.1.182 00:e0:fc:38:d4:40 UHLW 1 0  
rl0 10.1.1.183 00:e0:fc:65:07:fd UHLW 1 0  
rl0 10.1.1.244 00:50:fc:fe:74:3b UHLW 2 1  
rl0 10.1.1.254 00:0c:cf:70:50:06 UHLW 1 0  
rl0 127.0.0.1 127.0.0.1 UH 0 1117  
lo0 192.168.1 link#5 UC 0 0  
fxp0 192.168.1.25 00:05:5d:4d:19:58  
UHLW 1 0  
fxp0 192.168.1.45 00:11:43:b6:a1:55  
UHLW 1 0  
fxp0 192.168.1.71 00:0c:f1:b9:38:50 UHLW  
1 1645  
fxp0 192.168.1.84 00:04:23:af:79:66 UHLW  
1 0
```

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```
fxp0 192.168.1.112 00:30:4f:21:3b:8a
UHLW 1 0
fxp0 192.168.1.196 00:07:e9:40:1f:c5
UHLW 1 0
fxp0 192.168.1.199 00:e0:81:21:28:21
UHLW 1 0
fxp0 192.168.1.200 00:30:4f:03:88:03
UHLW 1 0
fxp0
```

when the information I was actually looking  
for is:

```
root@brad:0:/usr/home/src/FreeBSD-6/src/usr.bin/netstat#
netstat
-rnfinet Routing tables
```

```
Internet:
Destination Gateway Flags Refs Use Netif
Expire default 10.1.1.244 UGS 0 31016
rl0 10.1.1/24 link#1 UC 0 0
rl0 127.0.0.1 127.0.0.1 UH 0 1117
lo0 192.168.1 link#5 UC 0 0
fxp0
root@brad:0:/usr/home/src/FreeBSD-6/src/usr.bin/netstat#
```

The attachment patch ("cvs diff -u -rHEAD  
route.c" generated) prints  
link-layer generated routes when -a is  
specified and ignores them  
the rest of the time.

Thoughts? POLA violation?

Just use:

```
netstat -rn | awk '$3 !~ /L/ { print }'
```

That's exactly the point Eugene, I don't want to find ways to filter it  
out. It happens frequently. I didn't say it's difficult to remove it, I  
just don't want it there all the time. That's why you can use -a to get  
the old behavior.

Using simple pipelines with awk and sed, etc. is the UN\*X way though.  
Instead of building all-singing all-dancing programs you build simpler  
utilities that you "glue" together to build more complex behavior.

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I agree with you, but the UN\*X way is also keeping high info-to-noise ratio. Utilities tend to give very little output by default and switches must be used to increase the verbosity. That's the usual with a few exceptions (ifconfig comes to mind, defaults to -a (all) when in my opinion -u (up) would be a better choice. Please change this:)

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