

# BANNED dependencies



✱

Your Rating: ☆☆☆☆☆ Results: ★★★★★ 14 rates

- [Problem - using a parent pom prior to 20](#)
  - [What does this mean ?](#)
- [Problem - using a parent pom version 20 or newer.](#)
- [What the hell ?](#)
- [Why are those dependencies banned ?](#)
- [So what can I do ?](#)
  - [Up to version 19](#)
  - [As from version 20](#)

## Problem - using a parent pom prior to 20

You are trying to build Magnolia or a Magnolia project or module, and you get the following Maven error :

```
[INFO] Failed to resolve artifact.

Missing:
-----
1) commons-logging:commons-logging:jar:BANNED
   Path to dependency:
     1) info.magnolia:foobar:jar:1.0-SNAPSHOT
     2) <abc:abc>
     3) ...
     4) <xyz:xyz>
     5) commons-logging:commons-logging:jar:BANNED
```

## What does this mean ?

Two things:

1. The library at (4) (<xyz>) has a dependency on commons-logging
2. Our parent poms manages the version of commons-logging in its <dependencyManagement> section and forces it to a non-existing version called "BANNED".

## Problem - using a parent pom version 20 or newer.

You get the following message:

```
We try to avoid having any of the following dependencies to end up in Magnolia projects:
* xml-apis : cause endless issues and conflicts with the xml apis already
  present in JDKs.
* commons-logging: Magnolia ships with SLF4J and its jcl-over-slf4j companion.
  For that reason, we need to avoid ending up with commons-logging in Magnolia
  projects. See http://slf4j.org/faq.html
* commons-beanutils:commons-beanutils-core: Magnolia ships with
  commons-beanutils:commons-beanutils, which contains all of
  commons-beanutils:commons-beanutils-core. Exclude commons-beanutils-core to
  avoid version conflicts.
Please add exclusions appropriately, or override the enforced-banned-dependencies rules.
```

Since parent poms version 20, we use the enforcer plugin in conjunction with the [bannedDependencies](#) rule for this.

## What the hell ?

Why do we do this, you ask ? Well, those "banned" libraries should, in 99% of cases, not be shipped with any Magnolia project.

By version-managing those dependencies, we avoid them creeping into our builds. See <http://day-to-day-stuff.blogspot.com/2007/10/announcement-version-99-does-not-exist.html> for explanations of a similar trick.

We could also use [Maven Enforcer banned dependencies rules](#), however, those would be much more complicated to override in projects where they're actually needed.

## Why are those dependencies banned ?

In the case of `commons-logging`, it's fairly simple: we use `SLF4j`, which provides a **better** replacement for `commons-logging`, and we ship Magnolia with `jcl-over-slf4j` (see <http://www.slf4j.org/legacy.html> for details). Including `commons-logging` in a Magnolia project would make those 2 clashes and would prevent Magnolia from logging properly.

We also "ban" the following artifacts:

- `xml-apis`: these APIs are present in any JDK or redundant with Xerces (TBC - anyone with more details please correct this). They have caused enough pains and headaches in the past for us to decide to apply this hack to them too.
- `commons-beanutils-core`: we ship Magnolia with `commons-beanutils`, which includes `commons-beanutils-core`, so this is done as a preventive measure to avoid clashes.

## So what can I do ?

Use the following two Maven commands to figure out where those unwanted dependencies are coming from:

- `mvn dependency:tree` (e.g. `mvn dependency:tree -Dincludes=commons-logging,commons-beanutils,xml-apis`)
- `mvn help:effective-pom`

If indeed you have a dependency that depends on one of the banned library, you'll need to exclude it. In the example above, you could already exclude it a (2) level (`<abc>`), or if you have an explicit dependency on `<xyz>`, exclude it there:

```

<dependencies>
  <...>
  <dependency>
    <groupId>xyz</groupId>
    <artifactId>xyz</artifactId>
    <version>1.0</version>
    <exclusions>
      <exclusion>
        <groupId>commons-logging</groupId>
        <artifactId>commons-logging</artifactId>
      </exclusion>
    </exclusions>
  </dependency>
  <...>

```

If you **really** need one of the banned dependencies (it should really not be the case, see above), you have two options, depending on the parent pom you use.

## Up to version 19

You can override the managed-version in your own project's `<dependencyManagement>` section.

## As from version 20

You could override the rules if really necessary (it probably isn't). Example, to allow commons-logging:

```

<build>
  <pluginManagement>
    <plugins>
      <plugin>
        <groupId>org.apache.maven.plugins</groupId>
        <artifactId>maven-enforcer-plugin</artifactId>
        <executions>
          <execution>
            <id>enforce-banned-dependencies</id>
            <goals>
              <goal>enforce</goal>
            </goals>
            <configuration>
              <rules>
                <bannedDependencies>
                  <includes>
                    <include>commons-logging:*</include>
                  </includes>
                </bannedDependencies>
              </rules>
            </configuration>
          </execution>
        </executions>
      </plugin>
    </plugins>
  </pluginManagement>
</build>

```

It is crucial that you keep the correct `enforce-banned-dependencies` id for the execution, in order to override the configuration of the parent pom.

See <http://maven.apache.org/enforcer/enforcer-rules/bannedDependencies.html> for more details.