# QGIS Application - Bug report #19229 Reference layer is not optional in raster calculator

2018-06-20 08:02 AM - Mario Reyes

Status: Open Priority: Normal

Assignee:

Category: Processing/QGIS

Affected QGIS version: 3.0.3Regression?:NoOperating System:Windows 10Easy fix?:No

Pull Request or Patch shapplied: Resolution:

Crashes QGIS or corrupts data: Copied to github as #: 27058

#### Description

When the raster calculator from the processing toolbox is used for example to sum two rasters, the following error message is displayed>

Traceback (most recent call last):

 $File \ "C:/PROGRA~1/QGIS3~1.0/apps/qgis/./python/plugins\processing\algs\qgis\Raster Calculator.py", line 136, in process Algorithm$ 

raise QgsProcessingException(self.tr("No reference layer selected nor extent box provided"))

\_core.QgsProcessingException: No reference layer selected nor extent box provided

If an optional layer is provided, which specifies the output extent and CRS there's no problem.

#### History

# #1 - 2018-06-20 08:06 AM - Mario Reyes

I forgot to mention I'm using a custom CRS.

## #2 - 2018-09-12 02:35 PM - Harrissou Santanna

- Status changed from Open to Feedback

Actually the reference layer on one hand and the (cell size + extent) on the other are kind of mutually exclusive optional parameters. I mean you should either fill a reference layer and/or fill the other parameters. See <a href="https://github.com/qgis/QGIS-Documentation/pull/2443#issuecomment-373882292">https://github.com/qgis/QGIS-Documentation/pull/2443#issuecomment-373882292</a>. It's a false optional due to the fact that the GUI cannot yet display relations between parameters.

Does it work to you?

# #3 - 2018-09-12 03:24 PM - Mario Reyes

Harrissou Santanna wrote:

Actually the reference layer on one hand and the (cell size + extent) on the other are kind of mutually exclusive optional parameters. I mean you should either fill a reference layer and/or fill the other parameters. See

https://github.com/ggis/QGIS-Documentation/pull/2443#issuecomment-373882292 . It's a false optional due to the fact that the GUI cannot yet display relations between parameters.

Does it work to you?

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Yes, it works, but I think the actual approach is not user friendly. There is another discussion here #19553.

## #4 - 2018-09-12 04:08 PM - Giovanni Manghi

- Status changed from Feedback to Open

Does it work to you?

actually I think (after having used it again after #19553) that how the calculator works now is really cumbersome:

the parameters are all listed as optional, but in truth you have always mandatory ones. For exemple I have now noticed that cell size, output CRS and output extent are all mandatory.

Moreover when a user forgets an parameter the result is a python error! Not the most usefriedly thing. Usability wise is a step backwards (yes I know, not is in Processing that is a huge step forward, but yet...).

## #5 - 2018-09-12 06:21 PM - Mario Reyes

Giovanni Manghi wrote:

Does it work to you?

actually I think (after having used it again after #19553) that how the calculator works now is really cumbersome:

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Moreover when a user forgets an parameter the result is a python error! Not the most usefriedly thing. Usability wise is a step backwards (yes I know, not is in Processing that is a huge step forward, but yet...).

I think one of the problems is that the behaviour is not according to the documentation. For example, if no CRS is provided it should take the CRS of the first layer, which is not happening at least in 3.2.2. Anyway, it seems there is a QEP that deals with this issue, if I am not wrong.

### #6 - 2018-11-23 09:25 AM - Alister Hood

Also note that if you try to run the raster calculator a second time without closing and reopening, or selecting a different reference layer\*, then you get this error: "Unable to execute algorithm. Incorrect parameter value for LAYERS".

\*actually, after you run it the first time, the reference layer is listed twice, so you can select the other instance as a reference layer, and it will run without error. But then you would need to change the selection again to run it a third time, etc.

Re this see #18214

## #7 - 2018-11-28 11:14 AM - Alessandro Pasotti

- Category changed from Raster Calculator to Processing/QGIS

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