

QGIS Application - Feature request #5115

Save more than one style in a .qml file and give user a choice when loading the layer

2012-03-04 04:12 PM - Alister Hood

Status:	Open	
Priority:	Low	
Assignee:		
Category:	Symbology	
Pull Request or Patch supplied:		Resolution:
Easy fix?:	No	Copied to github as #: 14875
Description		
Someone might be interested in this:		
I saw a request for another desktop GIS for the ability to save multiple symbology files for a layer (with a suffix after the layer name so they have unique file names). When loading the layer the different symbologies would be automatically detected and the user given a choice of which style to use.		
Saving each symbology in a separate file doesn't seem very good to me because it risks naming conflicts (i.e. there might be other layers with the same file name plus a suffix). I think a better solution would be to save multiple symbologies in the same file. The downside of this would be that you couldn't just copy for another layer the .qml for a single style.		

History

#1 - 2012-04-15 10:21 AM - Giovanni Manghi

- Target version set to Version 2.0.0

#2 - 2012-10-06 02:25 AM - Pirmin Kalberer

- Target version changed from Version 2.0.0 to Future Release - Nice to have

#3 - 2013-01-23 05:09 PM - Alister Hood

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Saving each symbology in a separate file doesn't seem very good to me because it risks naming conflicts (i.e. there might be other layers with the same file name plus a suffix). I think a better solution would be to save multiple symbologies in the same file. The downside of this would be that you couldn't just copy for another layer the .qml for a single style.

Saving multiple styles in the same .qml file would probably also imply deeper integration of this feature into QGIS, not just the ability to choose a symbology when you load the layer:

- multiple styles[\*] for a layer would also be saved in the project file.
- they would be listed in the layer properties, allowing you to switch between them easily. Maybe when you right-click on a layer in the "layers" panel (aka TOC) there could also be a submenu which lists the styles, and you could switch quickly that way.
- there should be a mechanism to choose which layer style to use in a composer map, so you can use different styles in different maps, without having to switch rules on or off every time you view a map, or add a layer to the project multiple times.

[\*] another name like "themes" is probably needed, because when you use e.g. the rule-based renderer you really have a collection of styles, one for each rule.

**#4 - 2015-12-08 07:46 AM - Médéric RIBREUX**

- *Status changed from Open to Feedback*
- *% Done changed from 0 to 50*

Hello, bug triage...

multi-style for layers is completely implemented in QGIS 2.13 master (and in previous versions).

For the moment, you can only save a style per QML. Perhaps is it time to implement multi-style QML saving/loading ? I think this is not so trivial for the UI because we need to let the users decide to save styles on an individual or grouped basis (sometimes, I just want to export a single style from my multi-style layer, some other times, I want to export two or three styles simultaneously).

**#5 - 2017-05-01 12:50 AM - Giovanni Manghi**

- *Easy fix? set to No*

**#6 - 2019-01-10 10:59 AM - Alister Hood**

- *Status changed from Feedback to Open*
- *Description updated*

There isn't actually any feedback required as far as I can tell.