Deployment configuration

Configure Flow to track deployments for one or more integrations or repositories. Configuring deployments in Flow allows Flow to use git tags as the source of deployments. Flow ingests those git tags along with the integration and repositories and uses them to track deployments. Create inclusion rules to indicate which git tags are used to indicate deployments.

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Before getting started

Before setting up your deployment configurations in Flow, you need to understand your organization’s needs and practices so you can configure your deployments and get the specific data you want in Flow. Have conversations with your teams and leaders to ensure you are on the same page about the data you want to see in Flow and how you want that data showing up in reports. Discussing your organization’s needs early lets you see the right data in Flow faster.

Discuss with your teams their current use of git tags and any creation of new git tags that will be used for Flow. Make sure your teams agree on what constitutes a deployment so commits are tagged correctly. Then, when you configure your deployments in Flow, you already know which deployments your teams want insights into and how they’re tagged.

For example, your team might have git tags for deployments to production and deployments to staging. If you only want to see data for production deployments, configure your deployments for your production deployment git tags, but not for your staging deployment git tags. If you want to see data for both, configure Flow for both. Your team may have deployments that should be tracked in Flow and others that should not. Deciding which git tags you want to use in Flow will make setup easier for everyone.
Permissions
The Manage Integrations permission lets you set git tags as your deployment source. Learn more about administrative permissions.

What are git tags?
Git tags are reference points that indicate a specific event in the history of a repository. You can create a git tag to mark when a commit is deployed to production.

Learn more about Git tagging. Annotated tags give you the most information.

Applying git tags looks different in each vendor. Refer to your vendor’s documentation for the most detailed information. Here are a few examples:
- GitHub git tagging
- BitBucket repository tags
- GitLab tags
- ADO git tagging

Lightweight vs annotated git tags
Your workflow may include using lightweight or annotated git tags. The tag type you choose impacts how Flow calculates your deployments. Specifically, it affects what date and time your deployment is associated with.

If you use lightweight tags:
- Flow uses the commit author date and time as the time of the deployment.

If you use annotated tags:
- The commit author date and time and the tag date and time may not have the same date and time.
- Flow uses the later of the two dates as the time of the deployment.

If your workflow involves tagging pre-existing commits after the fact, or applying tags in sequence to denote various actions, use annotated tags. This lets Flow capture the correct date and time of the deployment, based on how and when you tag in your workflow.

If you use a combination of both annotated and lightweight tags, make sure to configure the regular expressions for your deployments in Flow to reference the correct tags based on how you want Flow to display deployments.
Enable git tags as your deployment source to track deployments. You can configure deployments for your organization at the integration level. Enable git tags as the source of deployments for all repos within one integration or all repos within several or all integrations.

**Note:** If you only want Flow to track deployments associated with certain git tags, set regular expression rules for your repositories after configuring deployments.

**Configure deployments for one or more integrations**

To configure deployments, you must first turn on git tags as your deployment source.

To enable git tags as your deployment source for an integration:

1. Click **Settings** in the top navigation.
2. In the left navigation, click **Integrations**.
3. Click the checkbox next to the integration you want to track deployments for. Click the checkboxes next to more than one integration if you want to track multiple integrations’ deployments.
4. Click **Actions**.
5. Click **Edit deployment source**.

6. In the pop-up modal, click **Use git tags as deployment source**.
7. Click **Update**.
Now, Flow can track deployments in all repos within that integration.

Edit deployment source for all integrations
To configure deployments in all repos in all integrations:

1. In the top navigation, click Settings.
2. In the left navigation under Integrations, click Integrations.
3. Click Actions for all integrations at the top of the page.
4. Click Edit deployment source.
5. In the pop-up modal, click Use git tags as deployment source.
6. Click Update.

Edit deployment source for repositories
Enable git tags as the deployment source to track deployments at the repo level. This allows you to track individual repositories instead of tracking all repositories within an integration. This is valuable if only some of your teams use git tags as a source of deployments for their repos.

Note: If you only want Flow to track deployments associated with certain git tags, set regular expression rules for your repositories after configuring deployments.

Edit deployment source for one or more repositories
To edit the deployment source for a specific repo:

1. Click Settings in the top navigation.
2. In the left navigation under Integrations, click Repos.
3. Use the checkboxes next to the repos to select the repositories to track deployments for.

4. Click the **Actions** dropdown menu.

5. Click **Edit deployment source**.

6. In the pop-up modal, click **Use git tags as deployment source**.

7. Click **Update**.

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**Edit deployment source for one repository**

To turn on git tags as your deployment source for an individual repository:

1. Click **Settings** in the top navigation.

2. In the left navigation under Integrations, click **Repos**.

3. Click the repository you want to track to view the repository details page.

4. Under **Deployment source**, toggle on **Identify deployments for this repository**.
Set regular expression rules

Regular expression rules tell Flow which git tags indicate a deployment. If you use a git tag for more than one purpose, you can filter for the specific git tags used to identify deployment. This is also useful if you only wish to track certain deployments that you differentiate by git tags. Create rules to identify which git tags are used to track deployments.

To create a regular expression rule

1. In the top navigation, click Settings.
2. In the left navigation under Integrations, click Repos.
3. Click on the name of the repo you want to set regular expression rules for to see the repo details page.
4. Under Deployment Source, make sure Identify deployments for this repository is toggled on.
5. Under Deployments to include, click Create rule.
6. In the pop-up modal, type in the regular expression you want to use to locate your git tags.
7. Click Test Regex. This tests which tags use this rule and generates a list of git tags for this rule. Make sure this list matches the git tags you want Flow to track.
8. Click Save.
To create a regular expression rule for multiple repositories

1. In the top navigation, click **Settings**.

2. In the left navigation under Integrations, click **Repos**.

3. Use the filters at the top of the page to narrow down the list of repositories to the ones you want to add regular expression rules for. Click **Apply filters**. Filtering is helpful if you have a lot of repos but only want to set regular expression rules for a select few.

4. Click the checkbox to the left of all repos you want to edit. To select all repos on the page, click the checkbox to the left of the column headers.

5. Click the **Actions** dropdown menu.

6. Click **Add deployment inclusion rule**, then follow the steps above to add a regular expression rule.

**Tip:** To edit inclusion rules for more repos at once, use the **Rows** dropdown menu to increase the number of rows that show on the page.

If you need help, please contact **Pluralsight Support**.