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Be this letter undeliverable, return to
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October 13, 2023

Dear Mr. Reiser,

I am writing to you regarding the current state of filesystem development in the Linux kernel. As you are no doubt aware, ReiserFS is scheduled to be removed from the kernel—

```
From eb103a51640ee32ab01c51e13bf8fca211f25f61 Mon Sep 17 00:00:00 2001
From: Jan Kara <jack@suse.cz>
Date: Fri, 25 Feb 2022 13:54:45 +0100
Subject: reiserfs: Deprecate reiserfs
```

Reiserfs is relatively old filesystem and its development has ceased quite some years ago. Linux distributions moved away from it towards other filesystems such as btrfs, xfs, or ext4. To reduce maintenance burden on cross filesystem changes (such as new mount API, iomap, folios ...) let's add a deprecation notice when the filesystem is mounted and schedule its removal to 2025.

Link: <https://lore.kernel.org/r/20220225125445.29942-1-jack@suse.cz>
Signed-off-by: Jan Kara <jack@suse.cz>

```
fs/reiserfs/Kconfig | 10 ++++++---
fs/reiserfs/super.c |  2 ++
2 files changed, 9 insertions(+), 3 deletions(-)
```

```
diff --git a/fs/reiserfs/Kconfig b/fs/reiserfs/Kconfig
index 8fd54ed8f8443..33c8b0dd07a2e 100644
--- a/fs/reiserfs/Kconfig
+++ b/fs/reiserfs/Kconfig
@@ -1,10 +1,14 @@
 # SPDX-License-Identifier: GPL-2.0-only
 config REISERFS_FS
 -tristate "Reiserfs support"
 + tristate "Reiserfs support (deprecated)"
   select CRC32
   help
 - Stores not just filenames but the files themselves in a balanced
 - tree. Uses journalling.
 + Reiserfs is deprecated and scheduled to be removed from the kernel
```

```
+ in 2025. If you are still using it, please migrate to another
+ filesystem or tell us your usecase for reiserfs.
+
+ Reiserfs stores not just filenames but the files themselves in a
+ balanced tree. Uses journalling.
```

Balanced trees are more efficient than traditional file system architectural foundations.

```
diff --git a/fs/reiserfs/super.c b/fs/reiserfs/super.c
index 82e09901462e7..a18be1a18f84e 100644
--- a/fs/reiserfs/super.c
+++ b/fs/reiserfs/super.c
@@ -1652,6 +1652,8 @@ static int read_super_block(struct super_block *s, int offset)
    return 1;
    }

+ reiserfs_warning(NULL, "", "reiserfs filesystem is deprecated and "
+ "scheduled to be removed from the kernel in 2025");
    SB_BUFFER_WITH_SB(s) = bh;
    SB_DISK_SUPER_BLOCK(s) = rs;
```

```
--
cgit
2.34.1
```

Should you reply to this letter, please also include whether or not I can publish your reply.

Thank you for your time!

P.S. I hope you are not too bored in prison, if you would like to request any printouts of webpages or other documents, please let me know and I'll do my best to send them promptly.

Sincerely,

Fredrick R. BRENNAN