

Endpoint Locator

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Endpoint Locator

The Endpoint Locator (EPL) feature allows real-time tracking of endpoints within a data center. The tracking includes tracing the network life history of an endpoint and getting insights into the trends that are associated with endpoint additions, removals, moves, and so on. An endpoint is anything with at least one IP address (IPv4 and\or IPv6) and MAC address. EPL feature is also capable of displaying MAC-Only endpoints. By default, MAC-Only endpoints are not displayed. An endpoint can be a virtual machine (VM), container, bare-metal server, service appliance and so on.

Note

- EPL is supported for VXLAN BGP EVPN fabric deployments only in the Nexus Dashboard Fabric Controller LAN fabric installation mode. The VXLAN BGP EVPN fabric can be deployed as Easy fabric, Easy eBGP fabric, or an External fabric (managed or monitored mode). EPL is not supported for 3-tier access-aggregation-core based network deployments.
- EPL displays endpoints that have at least one IP address (IPv4 and/or IPv6). EPL is also capable of displaying MAC-Only endpoints. Select the **Process MAC-Only Advertisements** checkbox while configuring EPL to enable processing of EVPN Route-type 2 advertisements having a MAC address only. L2VNI:MAC is the unique endpoint identifier for all such endpoints. EPL can now track endpoints in Layer-2 only network deployments where the Layer-3 gateway is on a firewall, load-balancer, or other such nodes.

EPL relies on BGP updates to track endpoint information. Hence, typically the Nexus Dashboard Fabric Controller must peer with the BGP Route-Reflector (RR) to get these updates. For this purpose, IP reachability from the Nexus Dashboard Fabric Controller to the RR is required. This can be achieved over in-band network connection to the Nexus Dashboard Fabric Controller Data Network interface. There is no option to configure static routes for pods on ND, so the selected RRs must be reachable through the default data network gateway.

Some key highlights of the Endpoint Locator are:

- Support for dual-homed and dual-stacked (IPv4 + IPv6) endpoints

- Support for up to two BGP Route Reflectors or Route Servers
- Support real-time and historical search for all endpoints across various search filters such as VRF, Network, Layer-2 VNI, Layer-3 VNI, Switch, IP, MAC, port, VLAN, and so on.
- Support for real-time and historical dashboards for insights such as endpoint lifetime, network, endpoint, VRF daily views, and operational heat map.
- Support for iBGP and eBGP based VXLAN EVPN fabrics. The fabrics may be created as Easy Fabrics or External Fabrics. EPL can be enabled with an option to automatically configure the spine or RRs with the appropriate BGP configuration.
- You can enable the EPL feature for upto 4 fabrics.
- EPL is supported on Multi-Site Domain (MSD).
- IPv6 underlay is not supported.
- Support for high availability
- Support for endpoint data that is stored for up to 60 days, amounting to a maximum of 2 GB storage space.
- Support for optional flush of the endpoint data to start afresh.
- Supported scale: Maximum of 50K unique endpoints per fabric. A maximum of 4 fabrics is supported. However, the maximum total number of endpoints across all fabrics should not exceed 100K.

  If the total number of endpoints across all fabrics exceeds 100K, an alarm is generated and is listed under the **Alarms** icon at the top right of the window. This icon starts flashing whenever a new alarm is generated.
- From NDFC Release 12.0.1a, Persistent or External IP addresses are required to enable EPL. For each VXLAN fabric, a specific container is spawned running a BGP instance to peer with the spines of the fabric. This container must have a persistent IP associated that is then configured as a iBGP neighbor on the spines. A different container is used for each fabric, so the number of fabrics that are managed by NDFC where EPL is enabled decides how many persistent IP addresses must be distributed for EPL. Also, the EPL establishes iBGP sessions only over the Cisco Nexus Dashboard Data interface.
- For Virtual Cisco Nexus Dashboard deployments, enable or accept promiscuous mode on the port-groups that are associated with the Nexus Dashboard Management and/or Data vNICs where IP stickiness is required. The Persistent IP addresses are given to the pods (for example, SNMP Trap/Syslog receiver, Endpoint Locator instance per Fabric, SAN Insights receiver, and so on). Every POD in Kubernetes can have multiple virtual interfaces. Specifically for IP stickiness an extra virtual interface is associated with the POD that is allocated an appropriate free IP from the external service IP pool. The vNIC has its own unique MAC address that is different from the MAC addresses associated with the vND virtual vNICs. Moreover, all communication to and from the PODs toward an external switch goes out of the same bond interface for North-to-South traffic flows. The EPL container uses Nexus Dashboard Data Interface. The Data vNIC maps to bond0 (also known as bond0br) interface. By default, the VMware system checks if the traffic flows out of a particular vNIC is matched with the Source-MAC that is associated with the vNIC. In case of NDFC, the traffic flows are sourced with the Persistent IP addresses of the given PODs. Therefore, we must enable the required settings on the VMware side.

If you are using a Virtual Cisco Nexus Dashboard Cluster before you begin, ensure that the Persistent IP addresses, EPL feature, and required settings are enabled. See below links:

Cisco Nexus Dashboard Fabric Controller Deployment Guide

Cisco Nexus Dashboard Fabric Controller Installation and Upgrade Guide

Backup and Restore

EPL only backups data for fabrics that EPL has been configured. If EPL is disabled for a fabric(even if EPL has previously been configured there), then you cannot backup the data for that fabric. Also, you can backup only historical data (data on the Endpoint Search page).

If a backup is initiated when EPL is enabled, then when restoring the backup, the same external data IPs that EPL was using must be available on ND. If those IPs are not available, then select the **Ignore External Service IP Configuration** option in the restore backup form. However, there are chances that the EPL pods will be brought up with different IPs, so any existing EPL policies become invalid. If EPL was previously configured with the **Configure My Fabric** option, you need to disable and enable EPL so that the old policy is cleaned up and an updated policy is deployed. If you did not use the **Configure My Fabric** option, then manually update their config with the new IPs.

EPL Connectivity Options

Sample topologies for the various EPL connectivity options are as given below.

NDFC Cluster Mode: Physical Server to VM Mapping

Refer to Cisco Nexus Dashboard Fabric Controller Verified Scalability Guide for more information.

Configuring Endpoint Locator

The Nexus Dashboard Fabric Controller OVA or the ISO installation comes with two interfaces:

- Management
- Data

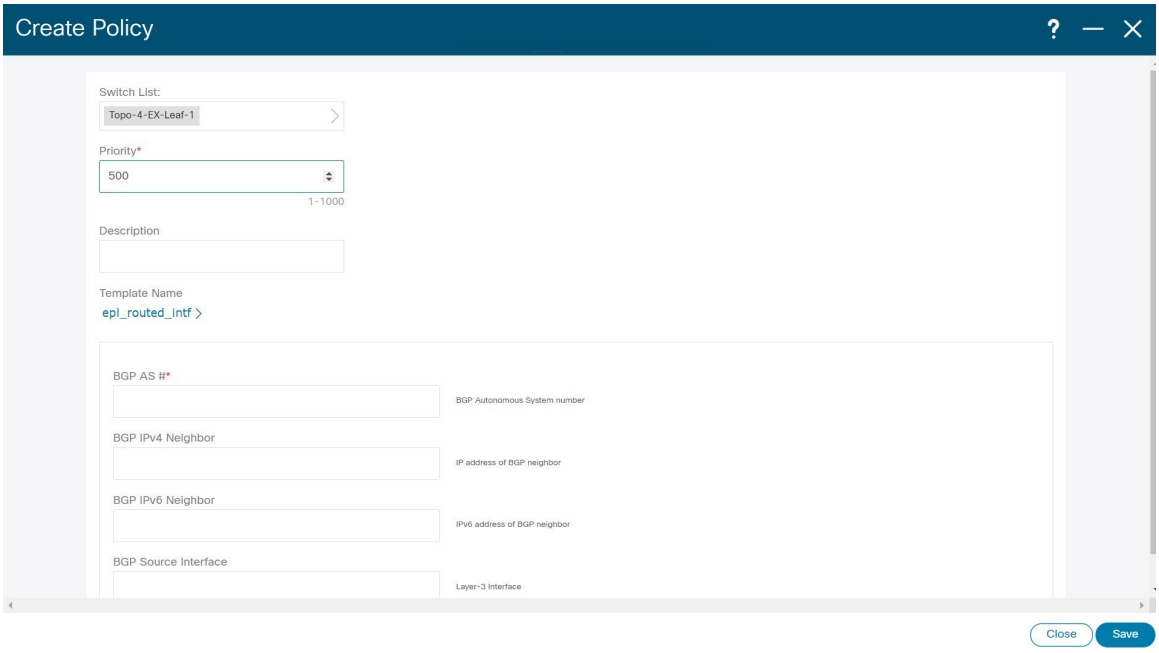
(Out-of-band or OOO) connectivity of switches via switch mgmt0 interface can be through data or Management interface. For more information refer to NDFC Installation and Upgrade Guide.

The Management interface provides reachability to the devices via the mgmt0 interface either Layer-2 or Layer-3 adjacent. This allows Nexus Dashboard Fabric Controller to manage and monitor these devices including POAP. EPL requires BGP peering between the Nexus Dashboard Fabric Controller and the Route-Reflector. Since the BGP process on Nexus devices typically runs on the default VRF, in-band IP connectivity from the Nexus Dashboard Fabric Controller to the fabric is required. The data network interface can be configured during Nexus Dashboard installation. You can't modify the configured in-band network configurations.

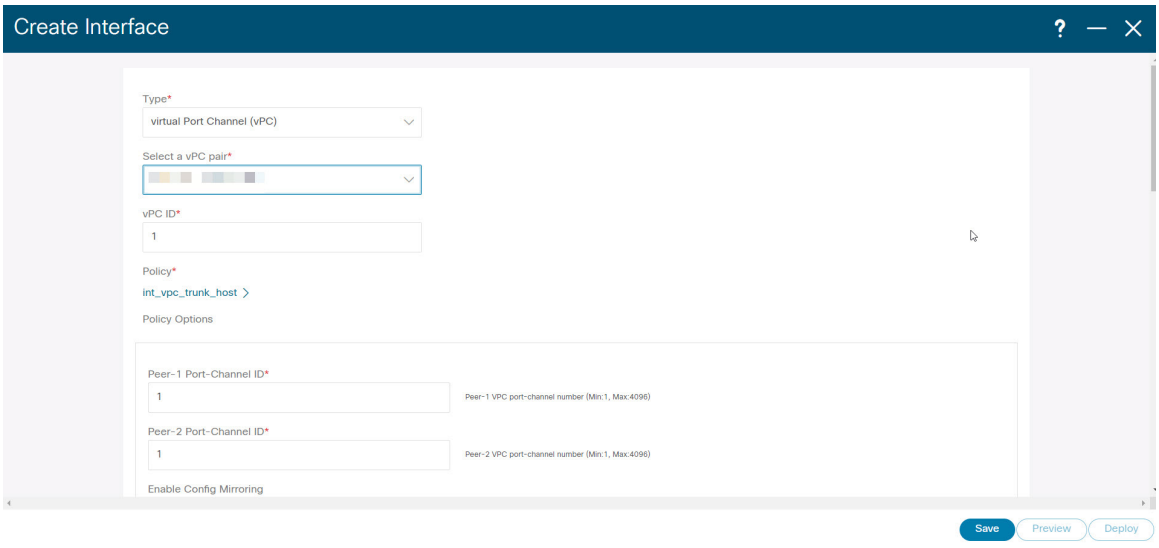
Note The setup of Data network interface on the Nexus Dashboard Fabric Controller is a prerequisite of any application that requires the in-band connectivity to the devices within fabric. This includes EPL and Network Insights Resources (NIR).

On the fabric side, for a standalone Nexus Dashboard Fabric Controller deployment, if the Nexus Dashboard data network port is directly connected to one of the front-end interfaces on a leaf, then that interface can be

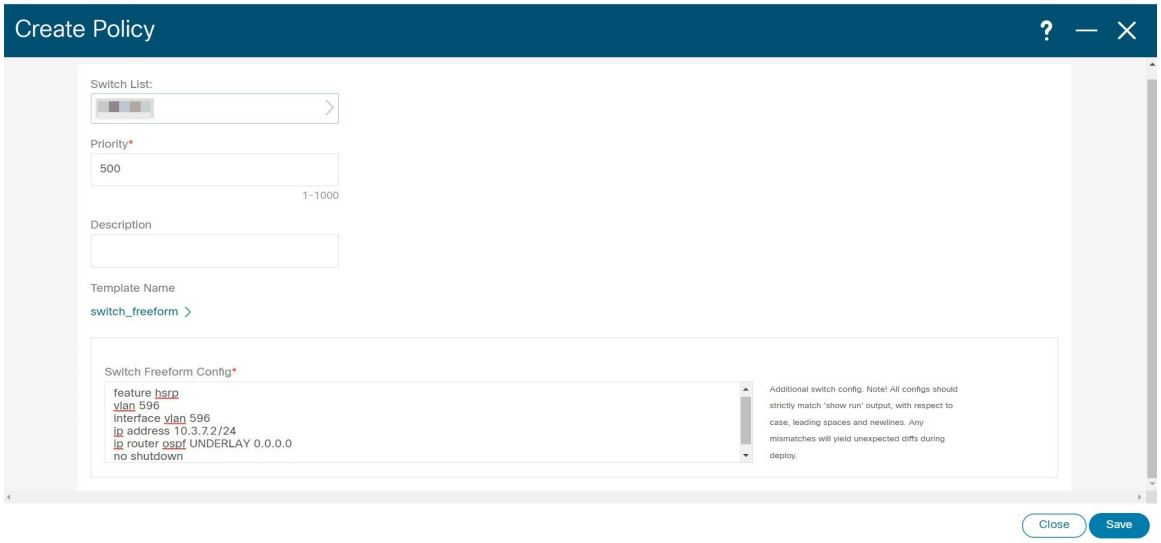
configured using the **epl_routed_intf** template. An example scenario of how this can be done when IS-IS or OSPF is employed as the IGP in the fabric, is depicted below:



However, for redundancy purposes, it is always advisable to have the server on which the Nexus Dashboard Fabric Controller is installed to be dual-homed or dual-attached. With the OVA Nexus Dashboard Fabric Controller deployment, the server can be connected to the switches via a port-channel. This provides link-level redundancy. To also have node-level redundancy on the network side, the server may be attached to a vPC pair of Leaf switches. In this scenario, the switches must be configured such that the HSRP VIP serves as the default gateway of the Data Network interface on the Nexus Dashboard Fabric Controller.



For the HSRP configuration on terry-leaf3, the **switch_freeform** policy may be employed as shown in the following image:



You can deploy a similar configuration on terry-leaf3 while using IP address 10.3.7.2/24 for SVI 596. This establishes an in-band connectivity from the Nexus Dashboard Fabric Controller to the fabrics over the Data Network interface with the default gateway set to 10.3.7.3.

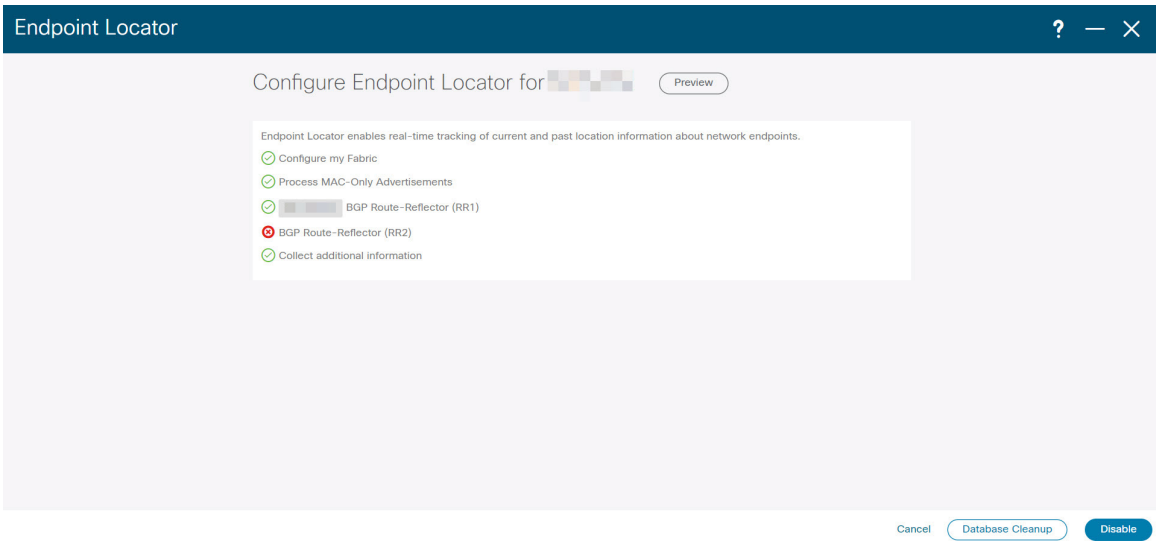
After you establish the in-band connectivity between the physical or virtual Nexus Dashboard Fabric Controller and the fabric, you can establish BGP peering.

During the EPL configuration, the route reflectors (RRs) are configured to accept Nexus Dashboard Fabric Controller as a BGP peer. During the same configuration, the Nexus Dashboard Fabric Controller is also configured by adding routes to the BGP loopback IP on the spines/RRs via the Data Network Interface gateway.

Note Ensure that you have enabled EPL feature for Cisco Nexus Dashboard Fabric Controller. Choose **Settings** > **Feature Management** > **Fabric Controller** choose check box **Endpoint Locator**. You can view the added EPL details on dashboard.

Note Cisco Nexus Dashboard Fabric Controller queries the BGP RR to glean information for establishment of the peering, like ASN, RR, IP, and so on.

To configure Endpoint Locator from the Cisco Nexus Dashboard Fabric Controller Web UI, On Fabric Overview page, choose **Actions** > **More** > **Configure Endpoint Locator**. Similarly, you can configure EPL on Topology page, right-click on required fabric, click **More** > **Configure Endpoint Locator**. The **Endpoint Locator** window appears.



You can enable EPL for one fabric at a time.

Select the switches on the fabric hosting the RRs from the drop-down list. Cisco Nexus Dashboard Fabric Controller will peer with the RRs.

By default, the **Configure My Fabric** option is selected. This option only configures EPL as a BGP neighbor of the switch and this option does not configure network reachability between EPL and the switch. This knob controls whether BGP configuration will be pushed to the selected spines/RRs as part of the enablement of the EPL feature. If the spine/RR needs to be configured manually with a custom policy for the EPL BGP neighborship, then this option should be unchecked. For external fabrics that are only monitored and not configured by Nexus Dashboard Fabric Controller, this option is greyed out as these fabrics are not configured by Nexus Dashboard Fabric Controller.

Select the **Process MAC-Only Advertisements** option to enable processing of MAC-Only advertisements while configuring the EPL feature.

Note If EPL is enabled on a fabric with or without selecting the **Process Mac-Only Advertisements** checkbox and you want to toggle this selection later, then you have to first disable EPL and then click **Database Clean-up** to delete endpoint data before re-enabling EPL with the desired **Process Mac-Only Advertisements** setting.

Select **Yes** under **Collect Additional Information** to enable collection of additional information such as PORT, VLAN, VRF etc. while enabling the EPL feature. To gather additional information, NX-API must be supported and enabled on the switches, ToRs, and leafs. If the **No** option is selected, this information will not be collected and reported by EPL.

Note For all fabrics except external fabrics, NX-API is enabled by default. For external fabrics, you have to enable NX-API in the external fabric settings by selecting the **Enable NX-API** checkbox in the **Advanced** tab of the External_Fabric_11_1 fabric template.

Click the **i** icon to view a template of the configuration that is pushed to the switches while enabling EPL. This configuration can be copied and pasted on spines or border gateway devices to enable EPL on external monitored fabrics.

Once the appropriate selections are made and various inputs have been reviewed, click **Submit** to enable EPL. If there are any errors while you enable EPL, the enable process aborts and the appropriate error message is displayed. Otherwise, EPL is successfully enabled.

The Nexus Dashboard Data Service IP is used as BGP neighbor.

When the Endpoint Locator feature is enabled, there are a number of steps that occur in the background. Nexus Dashboard Fabric Controller contacts the selected RRs and determines the ASN. It also determines the interface IP that is bound to the BGP process. Also, appropriate BGP neighbor statements are added on the RRs or spines in case of eBGP underlay, to get them ready to accept the BGP connection that will be initiated from the Nexus Dashboard Fabric Controller. The external Nexus Dashboard Data Service IP address that is assigned to the EPL pod will be added as the BGP neighbor. Once EPL is successfully enabled, the user is automatically redirected to the EPL dashboard that depicts operational and exploratory insights into the endpoints that are present in the fabric.

For more information about the EPL dashboard, refer Monitoring Endpoint Locator.

Flushing the Endpoint Database

After you enable the Endpoint Locator feature, you can clean up or flush all the Endpoint information. This allows starting from a clean-slate with respect to ensuring no stale information about any endpoint is present in the database. After the database is clean, the BGP client re-populates all the endpoint information learnt from the BGP RR. You can flush the endpoint database even if you have not re-enabled the EPL feature on a fabric on which the EPL feature was previously disabled.

To flush all the Endpoint Locator information from the Cisco Nexus Dashboard Fabric Controller Web UI, perform the following steps:

Procedure

Step 1 Choose **Endpoint Locator** > **Configure**, and click **Database Clean-Up**.

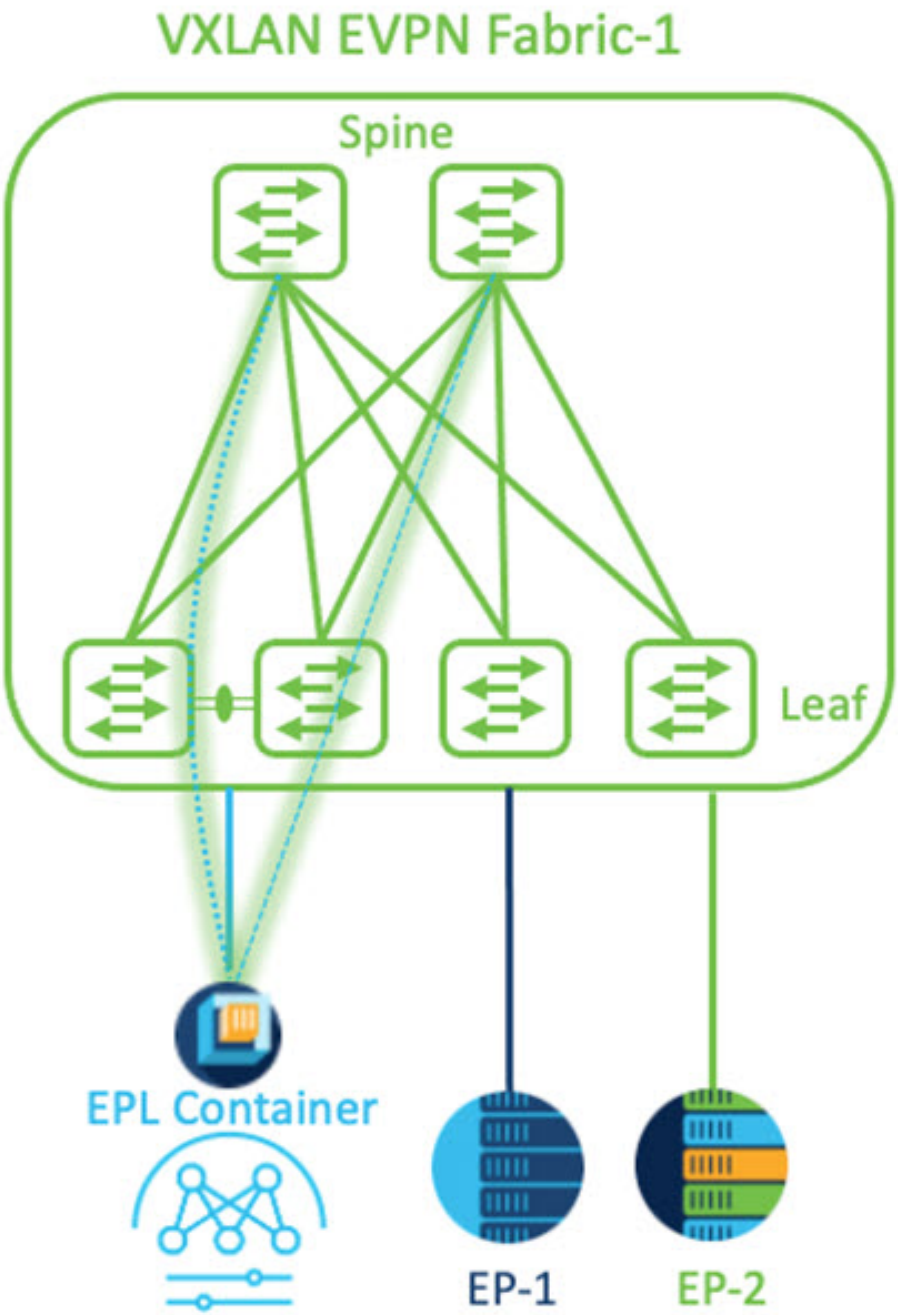
Step 2 Click **Delete** to continue or **Cancel** to abort.

Configuring Endpoint Locator for Single VXLAN EVPN Site

To configure endpoint locator for single VXLAN EVPN site, perform the following steps:

Before you begin

In the below figure, the NDFC service application is attached to the VPC pair of Leaf switches as it provides the link and node-level redundancy. The BGP instance running on EPL container establishes iBGP peering with the fabric spines. The iBGP peering is between Spine loopback addresses (loopback0) and EPL container persistent IP addresses. The loopback0 address of Spines is reachable via VXLAN Underlay, therefore, EPL container IP must have IP reachability towards the spines. We can configure an SVI on Leaf switches that can provide IP connectivity. The SVI will be a non-VXLAN enabled VLAN and will only participate in the underlay.



Procedure

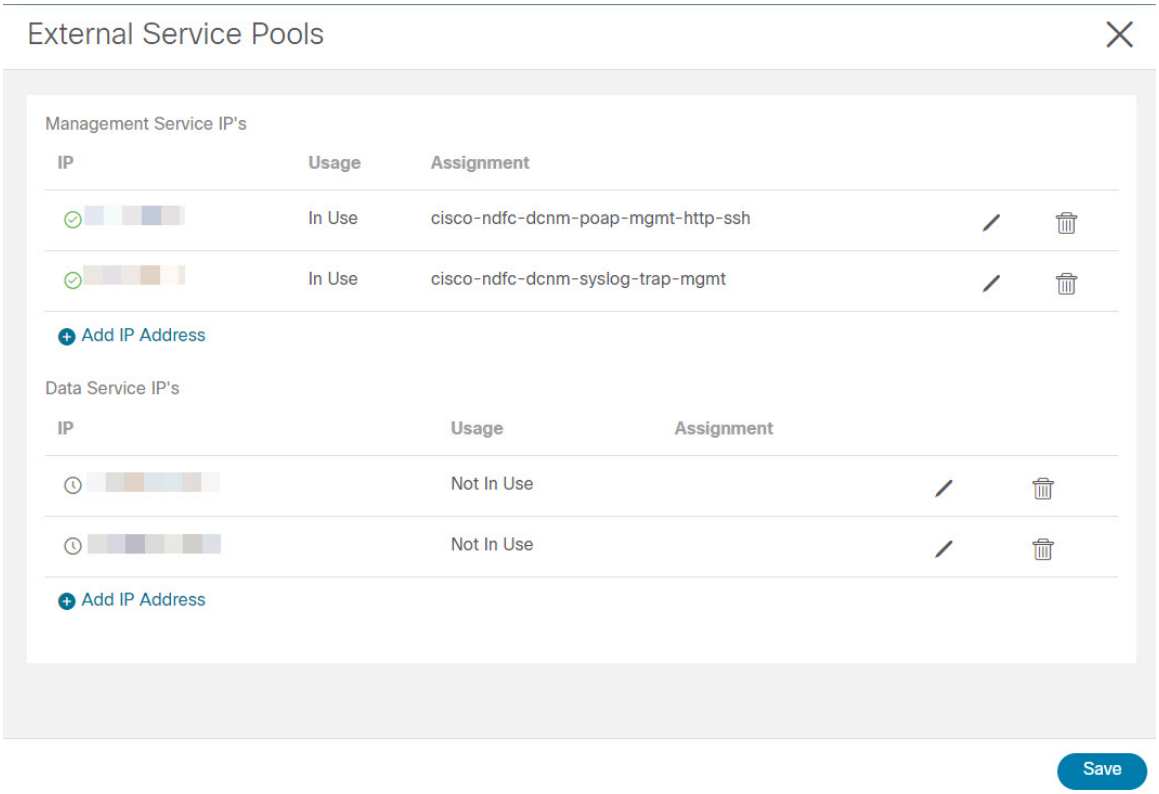
Step 1 You must configure persistent IP addresses on Cisco Nexus Dashboard. On Nexus Dashboard, choose **Admin Console** > **Infrastructure** > **Cluster Configuration**.

Step 2 On **General** tab, in **External Service Pools** card, click **Edit** icon.

The **External Service Pools** window appears.

Step 3 Enter Persistent IP addresses in **Data Service IP's** and click **check** icon.

Note
The IP address must be associated with Nexus Dashboard Data Pool. A single persistent IP address is required to visualize and track EPs for a single site.



Step 4 Configure SVI using FHRP for ND Data Interface and Underlay IP connectivity.

You can use **switch_freeform** policy on fabric Leaf 1.

To create a freeform policy, perform the following steps:

a) Choose **LAN**> **Fabrics**, double-click on required fabric.

The **Fabric Overview** page appears.

b) Click **Policy** tab, choose **Actions**> **Add Policy**.

The **Add Policy** window appears.

c) Choose appropriate Leaf1 switch from the **Switch List** drop-down list and click **Choose Template**.

d) On **Select Policy Template** window, choose **switch_freeform** template and click **Select**.

Apply FHRP configurations and save the template.

Deploy the template configuration.

In this example, SVI 100 with HSRP gateway created on fabric Leaf 1. Similarly, repeat the steps for fabric Leaf 2.

Below mentioned configuration example:

```
feature hsrp
vlan 100
name EPL-Inband
interface Vlan100
  no shutdown
  no ip redirects
  ip address 192.168.100.252/24
  no ipv6 redirects
  ip router ospf 100 area 0.0.0.0
  hsrp 100
    ip 192.168.100.254
```

Step 5 Verify IP reachability between Nexus Dashboard Data Interface and fabric switches.

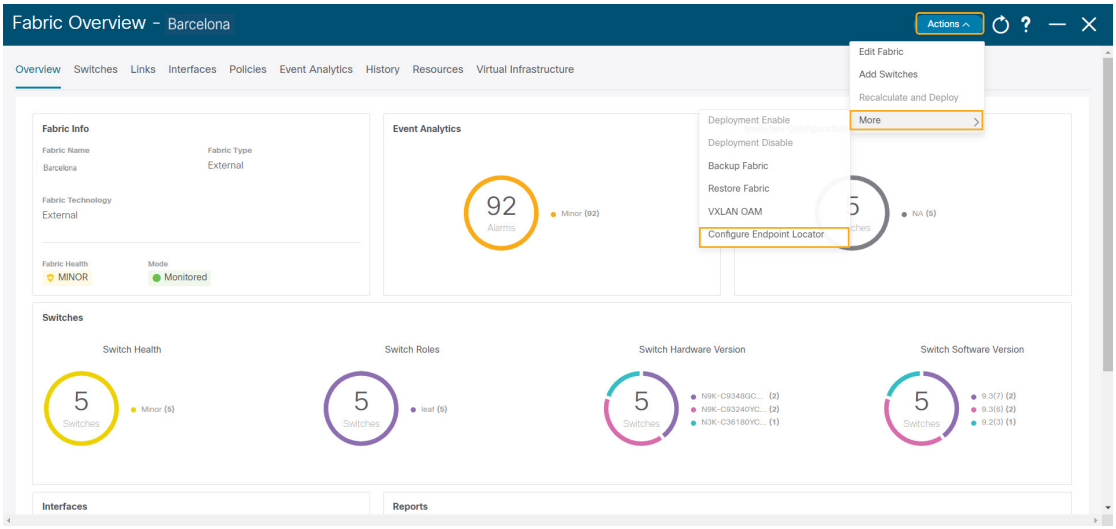
```
[rescue-user@ndfc-12-parth ~]$ ping 192.168.100.254 -c 2
PING 192.168.100.254 (192.168.100.254) 56(84) bytes of data.
64 bytes from 192.168.100.254: icmp_seq=1 ttl=255 time=1.95 ms
64 bytes from 192.168.100.254: icmp_seq=2 ttl=255 time=2.09 ms

--- 192.168.100.254 ping statistics ---
2 packets transmitted, 2 received, 0% packet loss, time 1000ms
rtt min/avg/max/mdev = 1.950/2.021/2.093/0.084 ms
[rescue-user@ndfc-12-parth ~]$
```

Step 6 Enable EPL at fabric level.

a) To configure EPL, choose **LAN**> **Fabrics**> **Fabric Overview**.

b) On **Fabric Overview** window, choose **Actions**> **More**> **Configure EndPoint Locator**.



c) Choose the appropriate switches on the fabric hosting the Spine/Route Reflector RRs from the drop-down list.

Choose **Configure my Fabric** option for knob controls.

Whether BGP configuration will be pushed to the selected Spines/RRs as part of the enablement of the EPL feature. If the Spine/RR needs to be configured manually with a custom policy for the EPL BGP neighborship, then this option should be unchecked. For external fabrics that are only monitored and not configured on NDFC this option is grayed out. As these fabrics are not configured on NDFC.

Choose **Process MAC-Only Advertisements** option to enable processing of MAC-Only advertisements while configuring the EPL feature.

Note
If EPL is enabled on a fabric with or without choosing the **Process Mac-Only Advertisements** checkbox and if you want to toggle this selection later, then you must disable EPL and click **Database Clean-up** to delete endpoint data before re-enabling EPL with the desired **Process Mac-Only Advertisements** setting.

Choose **Yes** in **Collect Additional Information** to enable collection of additional information such as PORT, VLAN, and VRF while enabling the EPL feature. To access additional information, NX-API must be supported and enabled on the switches, ToRs, and leafs. If you choose **No** option, this information won't be collected and reported by EPL.

Note
For all fabrics except external fabrics, NX-API is enabled by default. For external fabrics, you must enable NX-API in the external fabric settings, choose **Enable NX-API** checkbox in the **Advanced** tab of the External_Fabric_11_1 fabric template.

Click on **Preview** icon to view a template of the configuration that is pushed to the switches enabling EPL. This configuration can be copied and pasted on spines or border gateway devices to enable EPL on external monitored fabrics.

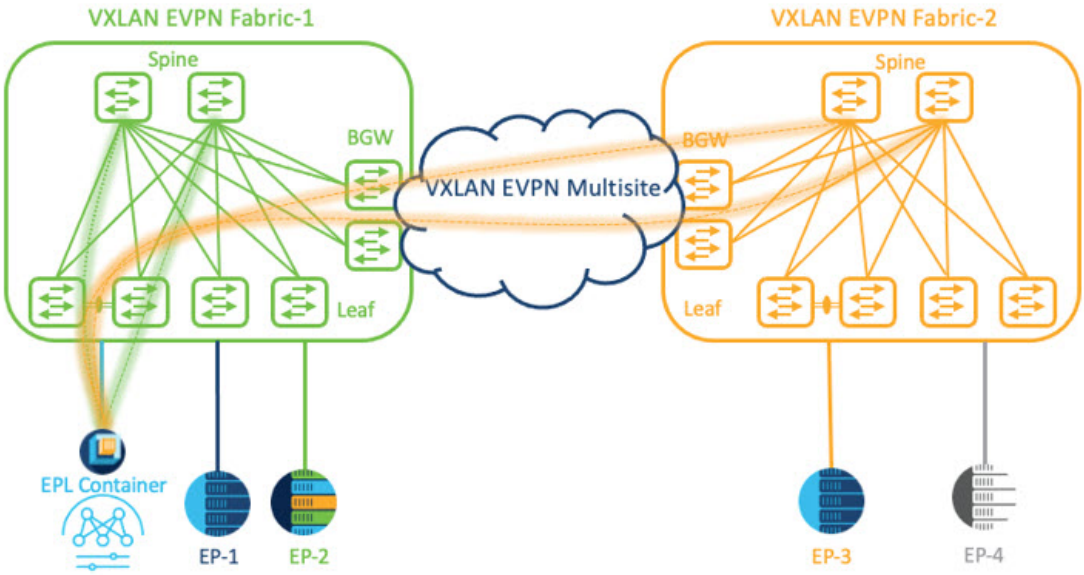
Once the appropriate selections are made and various inputs have been reviewed, click **Save Config** to enable EPL. If there are any errors while you enable EPL, the enable process aborts and the appropriate error message are displayed. Otherwise, EPL is successfully enabled. Once the EPL is enabled the Persistent IP will be in-use.

Configuring Endpoint Locator for Multi-Fabric using VXLAN EVPN Multisite

To configure endpoint locator for mult-fabric VXLAN EVPN multisite, perform the following steps:

Before you begin

The below figure enables EPL for Multi-Fabric using VXLAN EVPN Multisite. The BGP peering's are established between the Spines/RRs of each VXLAN EVPN Site and NDFC EPL Container. The Persistent IPs are required based on the number of VXLAN EVPN Sites. The NDFC application hosted on Cisco ND Cluster is located on Site 1. The routing information to reach the Spines/RRs deployed in the remote site must be exchanged across the Multisite. Once the BGP session is formed, local EPs of Fabric 2 can be visualized and tracked.



By default, Nexus Dashboard data Interface and Site 2 Spines/RRs loopback prefixes are not advertised across the BGWs. Therefore, prefixes must be exchanged using custom route maps and prefix lists across the sites. At the same time, route redistribution between OSPF and BGP is required as Spines/RRs loopback prefixes are part of OSPF protocol while BGWs peer with each other using BGP.

Procedure

Step 1 You must configure persistent IP addresses on Cisco Nexus Dashboard. On Nexus Dashboard, choose **Admin Console** > **Infrastructure** > **Cluster Configuration**.

Step 2 On **General** tab, in **External Service Pools** card, click **Edit** icon.

The **External Service Pools** window appears.

Step 3 Enter Persistent IP addresses in **Data Service IP's** and click **check** icon.

Note
Ensure that the IP addresses are associated with Nexus Dashboard Data Pool. Two persistent IP addresses are required to visualize and track EPs for a multisite with two member fabrics. One Persistent Data IP address is used as EPL container IP to establish BGP session with Site 1 fabric. A new Persistent IP address is configured that can be used to peer with Site 2 fabric.

Step 4 Configure Route Redistribution for VXLAN EVPN Fabrics.

Route Redistribution for Fabric 1

The following switch_freeform policy can be used on Fabric 1 BGWs. To create a new **switch_freeform** policy, refer to the above examples.

Below the example of sample configuration

```
ip prefix-list site-2-rr seq 5 permit 20.2.0.1/32 >> Site 2 RR
ip prefix-list site-2-rr seq 6 permit 20.2.0.2/32 >> Site 2 RR
```

```
ip prefix-list epl-subnet seq 5 permit 192.168.100.0/24 >> EPL Subnet

route-map bgp-to-ospf permit 10
   match ip address prefix-list site-2-rr
route-map ospf-to-bgp permit 10
   match ip address prefix-list epl-subnet

router ospf 100
   redistribute bgp 100 route-map bgp-to-ospf

router bgp 100
   address-family ipv4 unicast
       redistribute ospf 100 route-map ospf-to-bgp
```

Route Redistribution for Fabric 2

The following switch_freeform policy can be used on Fabric 2 BGWs. To create a new **switch_freeform** policy, refer to the above examples.

Below the example of sample configuration

```
ip prefix-list site-2-rr seq 5 permit 20.2.0.1/32 >> Site 2 RR
ip prefix-list site-2-rr seq 6 permit 20.2.0.2/32 >> Site 2 RR
ip prefix-list epl-subnet seq 5 permit 192.168.100.0/24 >> EPL Subnet

route-map bgp-to-ospf permit 10
  match ip address prefix-list epl-subnet
route-map ospf-to-bgp permit 10
  match ip address prefix-list site-2-rr

router ospf 200
  redistribute bgp 200 route-map bgp-to-ospf

router bgp 200
    address-family ipv4 unicast
        redistribute ospf 200 route-map ospf-to-bgp
```

Step 5 To configure EPL, choose **LAN**> **Fabrics**> **Fabric Overview**.

Step 6 On **Fabric Overview** window, choose **Actions**> **More**> **Configure EndPoint Locator**.

Step 7 Choose the appropriate switches on the fabric hosting the Spine/Route Reflector RRs from the drop-down list.

Once the appropriate selections are made and various inputs have been reviewed, click **Save Config** to enable EPL. If there are any errors while you enable EPL, the enable process aborts and the appropriate error message is displayed. Otherwise, EPL is successfully enabled. Once the EPL is enabled the Persistent IP will be in-use.

You can view EPL enabled for fabric-1 and fabric-2 successfully. To view and track EPs, Refer the Monitoring Endpoint Locator section.

Configuring Endpoint Locator for vPC Fabric Peering Switches

Networks Administrator can create vPC between a pair of switches using a Physical Peer Link or Virtual Peer link. vPC Fabric Peering provides an enhanced dual-homing access solution without the overhead of wasting physical ports for vPC Peer Link. For Virtual Peer link, EPL can still be connected to vPC pair of Leaf switches for the link and node-level redundancy. However, VXLAN VLAN (Anycast Gateway) as the First hop for EPL will be used. The loopback0 address of Spines/RRs is reachable only via VXLAN Underlay, while VXLAN VLAN will be part of a Tenant VRF. Therefore, to establish IP communication, route-leaking is configured between Tenant VRF and Default VRF. For more information, refer to vPC Fabric Peering section.

To configure endpoint locator for vPC Fabric Peering switches perform the following steps:

Procedure

Step 1 You must configure persistent IP addresses on Cisco Nexus Dashboard. On Nexus Dashboard, choose **Admin Console** > **Infrastructure** > **Cluster Configuration**.

Step 2 On **General** tab, in **External Service Pools** card, click **Edit** icon.

The **External Service Pools** window appears.

Step 3 Enter Persistent IP addresses in **Data Service IP's** and click **check** icon.

Step 4 Create a Tenant VRF and Anycast Gateway on the vPC fabric peering switches.

add two images

Step 5 Configure Route-leaking between Tenant VRF and Default VRF.

Advertise from Tenant VRF to Default VRF.

The following switch_freeform policy can be used on fabric Leaf where ND is connected.

```
ip prefix-list vrf-to-default seq 5 permit 192.168.100.0/24 >> EPL subnet
route-map vrf-to-default permit 10
  match ip address prefix-list vrf-to-default
vrf context epl_inband
  address-family ipv4 unicast
    export vrf default map vrf-to-default allow-vpn
router ospf UNDERLAY
   redistribute bgp 200 route-map vrf-to-default
```

Advertise from Default VRF to Tenant VRF.

The following switch_freeform policy can be used on fabric Leaf where ND is connected.

```
ip prefix-list default-to-vrf seq 5 permit 20.2.0.3/32 >> Spine loopback IP
ip prefix-list default-to-vrf seq 6 permit 20.2.0.4/32 >> Spine loopback IP
route-map default-to-vrf permit 10
   match ip address prefix-list default-to-vrf
vrf context epl_inband
   address-family ipv4 unicast
       import vrf default map default-to-vrf
        router bgp 200
   address-family ipv4 unicast
       redistribute ospf UNDERLAY route-map default-to-vrf
```

Step 6 Enable EPL at fabric level.

a) To configure EPL, choose **LAN**> **Fabrics**> **Fabric Overview**.

b) On **Fabric Overview** window, choose **Actions**> **More**> **Configure EndPoint Locator**.

c) Choose the appropriate switches on the fabric hosting the Spine/Route Reflector RRs from the drop-down list.

Once the appropriate selections are made and various inputs have been reviewed, click **Save Config** to enable EPL. If there are any errors while you enable EPL, the enable process aborts and the appropriate error message is displayed. Otherwise, EPL is successfully enabled. Once the EPL is enabled the Persistent IP will be in-use.

Configuring Endpoint Locator for External Fabrics

In addition to Easy fabrics, Nexus Dashboard Fabric Controller allows you to enable EPL for VXLAN EVPN fabrics comprising of switches that are imported into the external fabric. The external fabric can be in managed mode or monitored mode, based on the selection of **Fabric Monitor Mode** flag in the **External Fabric** Settings. For external fabrics that are only monitored and not configured by Nexus Dashboard Fabric Controller, this flag is disabled. Therefore, you must configure BGP sessions on the Spine(s) via OOB or using the CLI. To check the sample template, click icon to view the configurations required while enabling EPL.

In case the **Fabric Monitor Mode** checkbox in the External Fabric settings is unchecked, then EPL can still configure the spines/RRs with the default **Configure my fabric** option. However, disabling EPL would wipe out the router bgp config block on the spines/RRs. To prevent this, the BGP policies must be manually created and pushed onto the selected spines/RRs.

Configuring Endpoint Locator for eBGP EVPN Fabrics

You can enable EPL for VXLAN EVPN fabrics, where eBGP is employed as the underlay routing protocol. Note that with an eBGP EVPN fabric deployment, there is no traditional RR similar to iBGP. The reachability of the in-band subnet must be advertised to the spines that behave as Route Servers. To configure EPL for eBGP EVPN fabrics from the Cisco Nexus Dashboard Fabric Controller Web UI, perform the following steps:

Procedure

Step 1 Choose **LAN > Fabrics**.

Select the fabric to configure eBGP on or create eBGP fabric with the **Easy_Fabric_eBGP** template.

Step 2 Use the **leaf_bgp_asn** policy to configure unique ASNs on all leaves.

Step 3 Add the **ebgp_overlay_leaf_all_neighbor** policy to each leaf.

Fill **Spine IP List** with the spines' BGP interface IP addresses, typically the loopback0 IP addresses.

Fill **BGP Update-Source Interface** with the leaf's BGP interface, typically loopback0.

Step 4 Add the **ebgp_overlay_spine_all_neighbor** policy to each spine.

Fill **Leaf IP List** with the leaves' BGP interface IPs, typically the loopback0 IPs.

Fill **Leaf BGP ASN** with the leaves' ASNs in the same order as in **Leaf IP List**.

Fill **BGP Update-Source Interface** with the spine's BGP interface, typically loopback0.

After the in-band connectivity is established, the enablement of the EPL feature remains identical to what is listed so far. EPL becomes a iBGP neighbor to the Route Servers running on the spines.

Monitoring Endpoint Locator

Information about the Endpoint Locator is displayed on a single landing page or dashboard. The dashboard displays an almost real-time view of data (refreshed every 30 seconds) pertaining to all the active endpoints

on a single pane. The data that is displayed on this dashboard depends on the scope selected by you from the **SCOPE** drop-down list. The Nexus Dashboard Fabric Controller scope hierarchy starts with the fabrics. Fabrics can be grouped into a Multi-Site Domain (MSD). A group of MSDs constitute a Data Center. The data that is displayed on the Endpoint Locator dashboard is aggregated based on the selected scope. From this dashboard, you can access Endpoint History, Endpoint Search, and Endpoint Life.

Disabling Endpoint Locator

To disable endpoint locator from the Cisco Nexus Dashboard Fabric Controller Web UI, perform the following steps:

Procedure

Step 1 Choose **Endpoint Locator > Configure**.

The **Endpoint Locator** window appears. Select the required fabric from the **SCOPE** dropdown list. The fabric configuration details are then displayed for the selected fabric.

Step 2 Click **Disable**.