Database Health Reports Beta 6 - Coming Soon

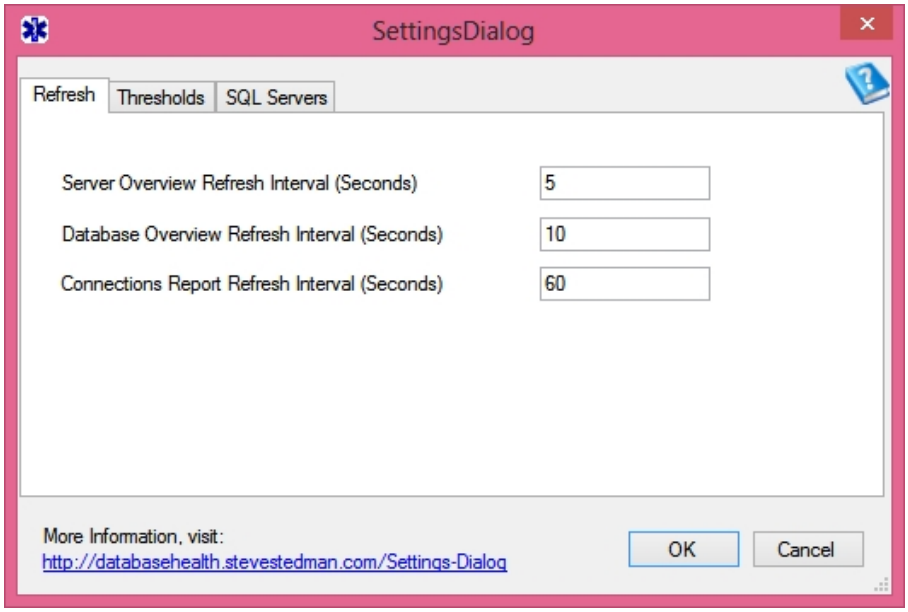
Over the last 3 months I have been working on a number of new features, enhancements and bug fixes to the Database Health Reports Project. In the next day or two Beta 6 will be available.

If you are not familiar with the Database Health Reports project, it is a free application to monitor SQL Servers for many server health related issues. Recently the Database Health Reports were used on a database at a SaaS company to find waste, and based on the findings the DBA then trimmed 20% of the overall database size in unused indexes. This improved overall performance, reduced backup time, and allowed for future growth without adding new database hardware.

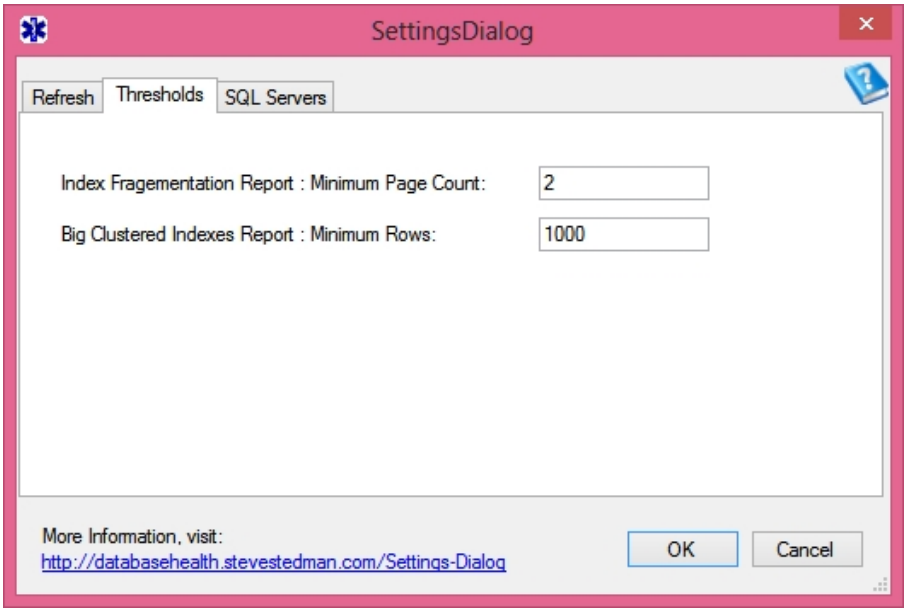
Here are some of the new features that have been added since Beta 5.

- Added an “Are you sure?” message to the defragmentation scripts before running them. This also includes a preview of the script that is about to be run.
- New Inefficient Indexes report added. Useful to find indexes that aren’t being used.
- Scrollbar added to the historic waits report to allow for easier browsing of wait stats.
- Add Ctrl+A support to the Query Advisor for select all on the edit control.
- Added Ctrl+C clipboard copy support to all the grids.
- Adding a setting dialog to consolidate some of the basic settings.
- Added a threshold setting (to the new setting dialog) to set the threshold to search on the big clustered indexes report.
- Added sorting to all the columns in all the grids.
- Added the application name into the connect string.
- Improved the call to check for updates when the application starts.
- Adding another warning to the database overview panel for huge log files.
- Added additional wait type documentation.
- Improved error handling.
- Added the update every X seconds functionality to the database connections report, this includes a setting in the setting dialog to change the every X seconds interval. If you don’t want it to update, just set it to a very large number.
- New update interval settings for the database overview and server overview panels.
- Adding Historic Plan Cache Hit Ratio Chart to the Historic Reporting section.

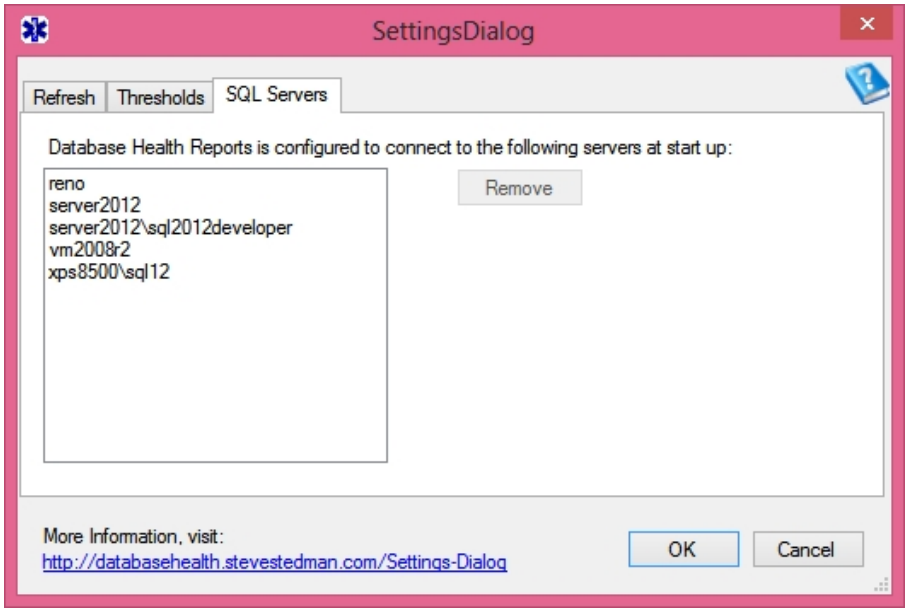
The settings dialog is one of the commonly requested features that I added to this release, first a number of refresh intervals on pages that update regularly.



Next some thresholds to use on a couple reports to filter out the smaller items that may not be performance issues.



A quick way to review all the database you are connected to, and to disconnect if you no longer want to monitor that database.



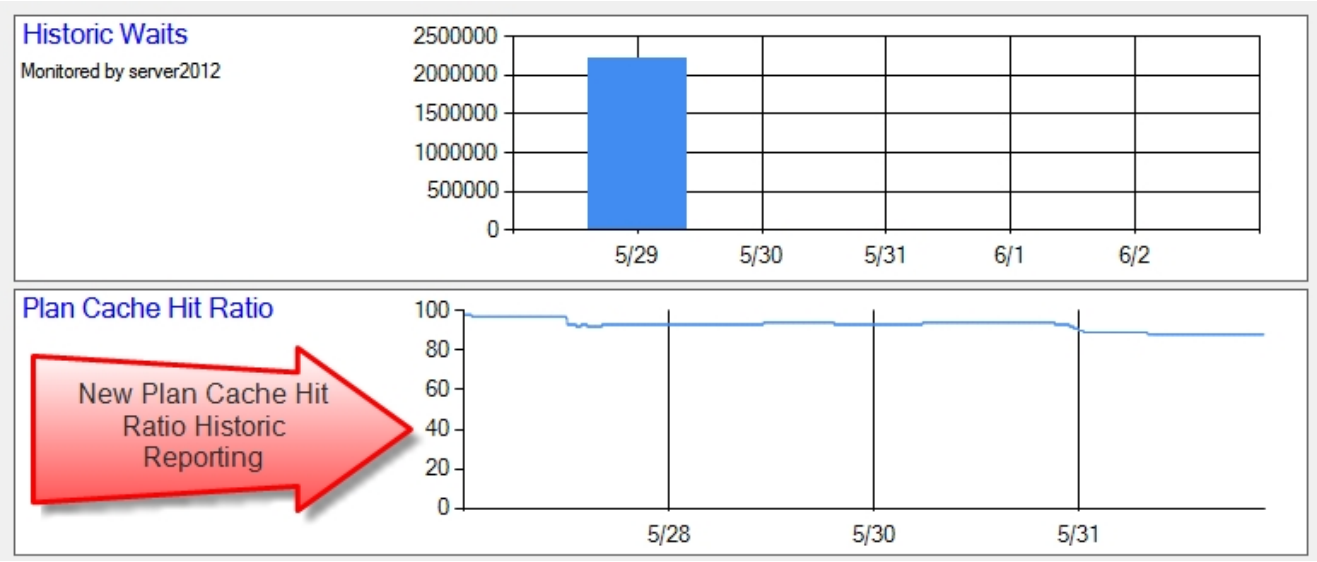
A new report that has been added is the Inefficient Indexes, the idea behind this report is that it helps you find indexes that are taking up space, that have lots of updates, but not being used frequently:

Inefficient Indexes for ReportServer$SQL2012DEVELOPER

Row	Table	Index Name	Type	Size	Seeks	Scans	Lookups	Updates
1	[dbo].[History]	PK_History	NonClust	0b	0	0	0	2988
2	[dbo].[ModelItemPolicy]	PK_ModelItemPolicy	NonClust	0b	0	0	0	2988
3	[dbo].[SecData]	PK_SecData	NonClust	16.0kb	0	0	0	2988
4	[dbo].[PolicyUserRole]	IX_PolicyUserRole	Clustered	16.0kb	0	0	0	2988
5	[dbo].[CachePolicy]	IX_CachePolicyReportID	Clustered	0b	0	0	0	1885
6	[dbo].[ConfigurationInfo]	IX_ConfigurationInfo	Clustered	16.0kb	0	11	0	1505
7	[dbo].[UpgradeInfo]	PK_UpgradeInfo	Clustered	16.0kb	0	0	0	1505
8	[dbo].[Segment]	PK_Segment	Clustered	0b	0	0	0	1505
9	[dbo].[ChunkSegmentMapping]	PK_ChunkSegmentMapping	Clustered	0b	0	0	0	1505
10	[dbo].[ChunkSegmentMapping]	UNIQ_ChunkId_StartByte	NonClust	0b	0	11	0	1505
11	[dbo].[SegmentedChunk]	PK_SegmentedChunk	Clustered	0b	0	0	0	1505
12	[dbo].[SnapshotData]	IX_SnapshotCleaning	NonClust	0b	0	0	0	1505
13	[dbo].[ChunkData]	IX_ChunkData	Clustered	0b	0	11	0	1505
14	[dbo].[Subscriptions]	PK_Subscriptions	Clustered	0b	0	0	0	1494
15	[dbo].[Batch]	IX_Batch_1	NonClust	0b	0	0	0	1494
16	[dbo].[RunningJobs]	IX_RunningJobsStatus	NonClust	0b	0	0	0	1494
17	[dbo].[ModelDrill]	IX_ModelDrillModelID	Clustered	0b	0	1	0	776
18	[dbo].[ExecutionLogStorage]	PK__Executio__05F5D74582D18811	Clustered	0b	0	0	0	11
19	[dbo].[ExecutionLogStorage]	IX_ExecutionLog	NonClust	0b	0	11	0	11
20	[dbo].[ServerParametersInstance]	PK_ServerParametersInstance	Clustered	0b	11	0	0	11
21	[dbo].[ServerParametersInstance]	IX_ServerParametersInstanceExpiration	NonClust	0b	11	0	0	11
22	[dbo].[Keys]	PK_Keys	Clustered	32.0kb	44	66	0	0
23	[dbo].[ConfigurationInfo]	IX_ConfigurationInfo	Clustered	16.0kb	66	0	0	0

For the historic reporting, a new plan cache hit ratio report has been added into the historic

reporting.



As each beta is released the Database Health Reports application continues to grow with more features, enhancements, and better stability as more and more bugs get fixed.

When the update is release it will be announced here on my blog, on the Database Health Reports website, and I will also announce it on twitter as @SqlEmt.