

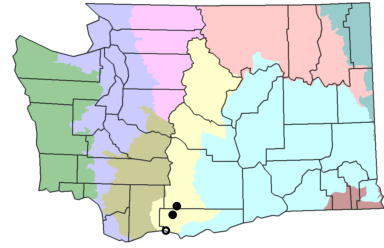
Juncus kelloggii Engelm.

Kellogg's rush

Juncaceae - rush family

status: State Endangered, BLM sensitive, USFS sensitive

rank: G3? / S1



General Description: Diminutive tufted annual, 1-5.5 (6.5) cm, drying reddish. Leaves all basal, up to 2.5 cm long. Sheaths 2-5 mm long; blades linear and often bristlelike, 0.1-0.4 mm wide.

Floral Characteristics: Flowering stems few to numerous, (1.5) 2-3 (4.5) cm tall. Involucral bracts 2-5, membranous, ovate to lanceolate, 1-2.5 mm long with pointed tips. Flowers 1-4 in a terminal head, 3-parted (occasionally 2-parted). Tepals 2.5-3.5 mm long, erect, turning dark reddish, tips pointed to sometimes needlelike, but smooth. Stamens 3; anthers about 0.4 mm long.

Fruits: Capsules turning dark reddish, usually nearly equal to the tepals (rarely longer than the tepals); style scarcely 0.3 mm long. Seeds numerous, 0.4-0.55 mm long, broadly ellipsoid, abruptly pointed, prominently ridged lengthwise and less strongly cross-lined. Identifiable April to July.

Identification Tips: *Juncus hemiendytus* var. *hemiendytus* is also rare in WA and may occur with *J. kelloggii*. However, *J. hemiendytus* var. *hemiendytus* has solitary terminal flowers, seeds with faint longitudinal and horizontal lines, capsules usually longer than the sepals, and 1-2 bracts unequal in size. *J. tiehmii* is similar but has 2-parted flowers, 1-4 (7) per head; capsules often longer than the tepals; and capsules and tepals green or pinkish in color.

Range: Vancouver Island, B.C., and along the Columbia River, from Klickitat Co., WA to Columbia and Hood River cos., OR, south through western OR, to much of CA. Also disjunct in northeast NV.

Habitat/Ecology: Sandy to clayey damp soils in a variety of habitats, such as vernal pools, seepage areas, and low spots in fields and meadows. Elevations in WA: 0-555 m (0-1820 ft). This species grows in habitats that are wet in the spring and completely dry in summer.

Comments: This plant is extremely small and could easily be overlooked. Threats include conversion of land to agricultural or residential uses, and any activity that alters the hydrologic regime of a site. It is also rare in Canada.

References: Ertter 1986; Flora of North America 1993+, vol. 22.

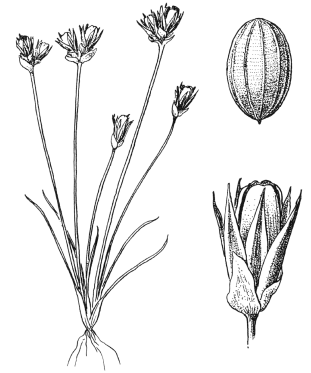


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