

-State Species Abstract-  
-Wyoming Natural Diversity Database-

*JUNCUS TRIGLUMIS* VAR. *TRIGLUMIS*  
THREE-FLOWER RUSH  
Family: Juncaceae

Status:

US Fish & Wildlife Service: None.

Agency Status: None.

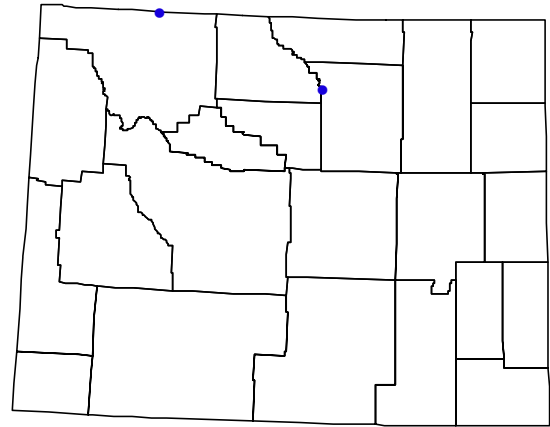
Heritage Rank:

Global: G5T5 State: S1

WYNDD Plant List: Peripheral (Low  
Conservation Priority)

Description: Three-flower rush is a tufted perennial graminoid with stems 5-8 cm tall. The leaves are all basal and shorter than the flowering stem and have reddish-brown sheaths. Leaf blades are ca 1 mm wide and have bumpy cross-ridges. The inflorescence consists of a single terminal head of 1-5 flowers, each subtended by a single dark bract. The lowest bract of the entire inflorescence is blunt-tipped and usually shorter than the inflorescence. Perianth segments are ovate to lanceolate, dark reddish-brown at maturity, and shorter than the pointed, brownish fruiting capsule. Seeds are 1.75-3 mm long with tails at each end. Stamens number 6 and have anthers that are much shorter than their filaments (Hulten 1968; Hermann and Weber 1977; Dorn 1992).

Similar Species: *Juncus triglumis* var. *albescens* has mature fruiting capsules that are equal in length to the perianth and long-acuminate lowest bracts that often exceed the inflorescence. *J. biglumis* has purplish or greenish fruiting capsules with rounded, notched tips and no more than 2 flowers per stem (Dorn 1992).



Wyoming distribution of *Juncus triglumis* var. *triglumis*.

Flowering/Fruiting Period: June-August.

Distribution: Circumboreal, in North America extending from Alaska and northern Canada south in the Rocky Mountains to Colorado. In Wyoming, var *triglumis* is known from the Beartooth Plateau and Bighorn Range in Park and Johnson counties.

Habitat: Wet gravels below melting snows in the alpine zone at 10,200-10,700 feet.

Occurrences in Wyoming: Known from 2 extant occurrences in Wyoming, both located since 1983 (most recently in 1999).

Abundance: Not known.

Trends: Not known.

Protection status: One occurrence is protected in the Cloud Peak Wilderness Area. Another population is located in the proposed Twin Lakes/Line Creek Research Natural Area.

Threats: Not known.

Managed Areas: Occurs on Bighorn and Shoshone National Forests.

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