

***Juncus macrophyllus*** Cov., LONG-LEAF RUSH. Perennial herb, weakly rhizomatous, with photosynthetic stems, tufted with many erect shoots, in range 50–105 cm tall; shoots with 3–5 basal and 1–4 cauline leaves, glabrous; rhizomes horizontal 30–50 mm belowground, poorly developed, 4–6 mm diameter. **Stems (culms):** compressed, 1.5–2.7 mm diameter, tough, green-striped with narrow, dark green ridges and broader paler green furrows having minute speckles (stomates), very dark red to blackish red at base, glabrous; core white. **Leaves:** alternate distichous, simple with sheath, with 2, overlapping lobes (auricles) at top; sheath open, to 200 mm long (basal leaves) and 55–120 mm long (cauline leaves), fibrous, upper sheath initially green aging dark purplish red to very dark red at base and tan above, with non-overlapping margins, parallel-veined, auricles semicircular,  $\pm 0.6$  mm long; blade (top of inflorescence) and 180–430+ mm long (cauline leaves), entire, parallel-veined. **Inflorescence:** panicle of heads, terminal, open, heads 8–42 (glomerules), panicle 310–330  $\times$  30–90 mm, bracteate, glabrous; branches ascending to arching with ultimate axes having a terminal head of 3–5(–6) flowers; bract and prophyll paired at each fork, bract  $\pm$  leaflike but diminutive, sheath of lower bracts 10–35 mm long and blade 9–30 mm long decreasing upward or absent at the upper forks, prophyll in axil of branches, to 30 mm long decreasing upward, 2-veined, membranous on margins and at truncate to 2-lobed tip; bractlet subtending pedicel ovate-deltate, 0.9–1.2  $\times$  0.7 mm, translucent; pedicel 0.3–0.5 mm long. **Flower:** bisexual, radial,  $< 1.5$  mm across, closed; **tepals** 6 in 2 somewhat different whorls, erect, acuminate-lanceolate, at anthesis 2.3–3.3  $\times$  0.6–0.8 mm, of outer whorl ca. 0.5 mm  $>$  inner whorl, green with whitish margin, 1-veined, persistent; **stamens** 6, free, opposite tepals, included; filaments 0.5–0.6 mm long, pale green becoming reddish brown from base upward; anthers basifixed, dithecal,  $\pm$  linear, in range 1.9–2.1  $\times$  0.2 mm, light yellow, with spreading, rounded lobes at base ( $\pm$  hastate), longitudinally dehiscent; pollen light yellow; **pistil** 1, 1.5–2 mm long; ovary superior, ellipsoid 3-lobed, 1–1.3  $\times$  0.6–1 mm, greenish, 3-chambered, each chamber with 40–50 ovules; style 3-branched, basal portion 0.5–1 mm long, the stigmatic branches included, initially corkscrewlike with 2+ coils, ca 1 mm long when uncoiled, brownish or strawberry red. **Fruit:** capsule, loculicidal, dehiscent by 3 valves, with ca. 135 seeds, ovoid to obovoid 3-sided, 3–4.5  $\times$  1.7–2 mm,  $<$  perianth, yellowish ochre or tan, the valves indented at septum and with fine point at tip, slightly ribbed on sutures, with persistent style base. **Seed:**  $\pm$  ovoid, 0.5–0.6  $\times$  0.25 mm, brown to dark orange yellow, longitudinally ribbed on surface, pointed at base,  $\pm$  beaked at top, not tailed.

Native. Perennial herb growing occasionally in dense, monospecific stands at several localities where soil remains moist during the early growing season along creeks at low elevations. *Juncus macrophyllus* has compressed stems, flat blades, and a terminal inflorescence, and like *J. dubius* has two lobes (auricles) at the top of the sheath.

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