**Genus-species:** Juncus pusillus

**Authority:** Buchenau, 1879

**Subordinate taxa:** -

**Synonyms and authority:** Juncus capillaceus Hook.f. (1853)

**Common name:** dwarf rush

**Section:** Ozophyllum

**Threat status (2012):** Endemic, non threatened

**NZ distribution:** Southwards from Bay of Plenty

**Habitat:** Open, swampy ground in bogs and alongside tarn, lake and river margins. Costal to alpine. Often associated with J. novae-zelandiae.

**Identification features:** Tiny creeping plant with fine leaves, 2-3 cm long. **Leaves:** delicate and tubular, often longer than length of flowering stems. **Flower heads:** short, flowers either singular or 2-3 together at the end of stems. **Capsules:** pale brown, oblong with a distinctive point. **Tepals:** shorter in length than capsule.

**Similar species:** Most likely confused with J. scheuchzeriodes and J. novae-zelandiae. From J. scheuchzeriodes it differs by the tubular rather than flat red-brown to brown rather than pale-green, red-green leaves which are less than 0.5 mm wide. Furthermore it has flowers which are 1.5-3 mm rather than 4 mm long. From J. novae-zelandiae it differs by the light brown rather than shiny black tipped mature capsules and stems which are less than the length of the leaves at maturity.