

**Botanical Name:** *Juncus patens*  
**Common Name:** California Gray Rush  
*JUNK-us PAA-tenz*

## PERENNIAL



Spring



Summer



Fall



Winter

**Family:** Juncaceae  
**Origin:** California streambanks  
**Climate Zone:** USDA 7-11, Sunset 4-9, 14-24  
**Mature Height:** 1-2 feet  
**Mature Width:** 1-2 feet  
**Plant Type:** Evergreen  
**Growth Habit:** Erect, compact, tidy bunching rush, in moist soil spreads by runners, rhizomes  
**Growth Rate:** Fast, slower in more shade  
**Flower Color/Details:** Bronze, clustering at tips  
**Flower Season:** Summer  
**Bark:** N/A  
**Fruit:** N/A  
**Foliage:** Blue-green, stiff, round, needle-like  
**Use:** Pond edge, rain garden, paths, borders, alone or as accent plants in containers  
**Floral:** Unknown  
**Wildlife/Beneficials:** Host for native moth caterpillars  
**Deer Resistant:** Yes  
**Fire Resistant:** Yes  
**Medicinal Uses/Edible:** Unknown  
**Adverse Factors:** None

**Soil:** Adaptable  
**Exposure:** Full sun with ample water, to shade in drier conditions  
**Water Requirements:** High; thrives in moist soil and shallow water to 3 inches deep. Tolerates heat, humidity, drought.  
**WUCOLS Water Needs:** H H M M ? ?  
**UC Davis Arboretum All-Star:** No  
**Description:** Grasslike, cultivars 'Carmen's Grey,' 'Elk Blue,' 'Occidental Blue,' are much bluer than species. 'Carmen's Grey' is a weeping form.  
**Maintenance:** Do not trim, until plants appear untidy, every 3-4 years, then cut back to 1 inch in February. Every 6-12 months, rake through plant wearing rubber gloves or using a hand cultivator.



#1 Nursery Container