**Baumea arthrophylla**

**Conservation status**
Australia: Not listed
Northern Territory: Endangered

**Description**
This species is a perennial sedge to 2 m high. The inflorescence is narrow, interrupted and 10-30 cm long. The leaves are round in cross section, septate and pith filled.

Flowering and Fruiting: Oct - Nov.

**Distribution**
This sedge is widely distributed in subtropical and temperate areas of the continent. In the NT, it is exceptionally rare; known only from a single population, consisting of only a few plants, in Watarrka National Park (White et al. 2000). The closest occurrence outside the NT of this species is at Dalhousie Springs in South Australia.

**Conservation reserves where reported:**
Watarrka National Park.

**Ecology**
This species occurs in a seepage area amongst rocks in a sandstone gorge. It is unclear whether this species is a relict of wetter climatic periods or a more recent immigrant.

**Conservation assessment**
This species qualifies as Endangered in the NT (under criterion D), based on:
- restricted distribution, with area of occupancy estimated to be <20 km²; and
- a small population size estimated to be <250 mature individuals.

**Threatening processes**
With such a small population size and restricted distribution in the NT, the population of this species is vulnerable to stochastic events. The drying out of the drainage line in which it occurs and wildfires are potential threats.

**Conservation objectives and management**
Protection from intense fires is required. A monitoring program should be established.
Complied by

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References