

Identified Problems

One of the main tasks the Forum is to monitor and report on issues arising from access to the land and an urgent need has been identified to deliver a management strategy which will welcome people to the land and encourage responsible access to the beaches whilst protecting our important machairs and dependent species.

In 2008 there was a steep rise in the number of campervan/motor homes coming to Tiree. A 50% increase in October to May 2008/2009 compared to the same period 2007/2008 and a 154% increase in June and July 2009 compared with the same period 2008.

Erosion of machair due to vehicular access is widely published and recognized as a serious problem. It is most common in areas where vehicles have access to the wider machair such as on Tiree.



Many park along the seaward edge of the machair to get close to beaches resulting in erosion of the machair through compaction of the vegetation along tracks and on the dunes. This allows strong winds to erode the topsoil, exposing the sand beneath.

