Typical scenery on the islands of the Hebrides, on the west coast of Scotland. The characteristic dunes and 'machair' grasslands are the base of a unique ecology and attract many visitors. (Photograph by Susan Cooper.)



Same area after a major storm in January 2005. The storm moved huge volumes of sand and uprooted or submerged most of the flora. The landscape is naturally shaped by the occasional storm, but could be transformed permanently by a change in wave climate. (Photograph by Susan Cooper.)

