

Editorial

A slam dunk

Okay, Mr. President. You're open for a three-point game-winning shot. Take it!

More than 50 small parcels of land, many of them tiny islands in the Salish Sea, can be forever protected for all Americans, if you'll listen to Interior Secretary Salazar and thousands of Washingtonians. Designate the thousand acres of BLM land as the San Juan Islands National Monument.

As a Hawaiian, you've experienced some beautiful islands, many of them National Monuments. Authorized in 1906 by the Antiquities Act, there are 101 national monuments, including two that you have created. The San Juan Islands National Monument will be a worthy addition to the list.

Consider taking a half-hour after you leave Seattle next week to fly over some truly fabulous scenery and sign the Executive Order over Patos Island, within a few miles of the U.S.- Canadian border.

And everyone on board, including you, would be thrilled if you have a chance to see killer whales, living national monuments that also need federal protection.

The shot will be on all the highlights as you sign the Executive Order that will result in keeping America beautiful. It will be an Executive Order that your grandchildren and great grandchildren, and all Americans, will remember you for.