

washington tourism alliance

August 22, 2012

The Honorable Barack Obama
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington DC 20500

Dear President Obama:

This month, the readers of *Travel + Leisure* rated Washington State's San Juan Islands among the top five U.S. island destinations. The recognition is a source of pride for residents, who know the islands' orcas, lighthouses and rocky landings by name. It is also a boost for local efforts, led by the San Juan Islands Visitor Bureau, to bring increased attention to this treasured landscape.

Mr. President, we need your help. Designating the 955 acres of existing Bureau of Land Management lands on these islands a National Monument would inspire tourism and economic activity.

Already, tourism supports one in every eight Washington State jobs. Please join local businesses and community leaders, Sen. Maria Cantwell and Rep. Rick Larsen, in supporting these American jobs. By exercising your authority under the Antiquities Act to protect the San Juan Islands, visitors from around the country -- and the world -- will always have the opportunity to enjoy the islands' natural and historic wonders.

Sincerely,

Suzanne Fletcher
Executive Director



Washington Tourism
Alliance

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