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Thank you for the opportunity to give my thoughts on restoring public access to Swan Island. I grew up in Bangor and moved away from Maine to serve in the Navy and worked for several years out of state. My Husband and I moved back to Maine in 2003 and settled in beautiful Bowdoinham. This was a whole new part of the state to me and we found exploring Swan Island was one of our favorite things to do. We would take our bikes over and spend the day biking the the length and breadth of the island. I especially love the historic properties and sites on Swan Island. They are a true snapshot in time and a very unique asset.

When our children were born bringing them out became a family adventure. We were so encouraged when investment was made in the landings both on island and on the mainland. It is a shame to waste that investment. I truly believe that the economic benefits of reopening public access would offset any cost. Because of the gravel road and gentle terrain Swan Island can give visitors of all abilities a chance to benefit from this great resource. Please bring this bill to fruition. Thank you so much.