

Smith and Bybee Lakes Wildlife Area

Educational Programs, 1998 - 2001

Programs at Smith and Bybee Lakes

School Field Trips

- ✎ School classes coming to S & B for a field trip
- ✎ Students, teachers, and parent helpers
- ✎ Available year-round but mainly done in Sept, Oct, April, May, June.
- ✎ Charge of \$2 per student
- ✎ Staffed by James and volunteer naturalists
- ✎ About 25 programs per school year
- ✎ Topics are wildlife watching and tracking and wetland ecology

Youth Group Field Trips

- ✎ Scouts, campfire, day care, day camp, etc.
- ✎ Kids and their parent leader(s)
- ✎ Available year-round; most are fall and spring
- ✎ Charge of \$2 per child
- ✎ Staffed by James with occasional help from volunteer naturalists
- ✎ Variable, about 10 programs a year
- ✎ Topics are wildlife watching and tracking, wetland ecology, and various other topics requested by leader such as outdoor careers.

Other Group Field Trips

- ④ Wide range of groups -- church group, treatment programs, college classes, The Nature Conservancy, etc.
- ④ Mainly adults and older teens with leaders and/or staff
- ④ Available year-round; requests are pretty random
- ④ Charge of \$2 per person
- ④ Staffed by James with occasional help from volunteer naturalists
- ④ Number varies but is under 10 a year
- ④ Topics vary but are still focused on the plants and wildlife of the wildlife area and on nature observation skills. Some of these programs, especially for the college classes, are specifically about more advanced topics such as management practices at the lakes, teaching techniques for environmental education, and water quality testing.

Bird Watching Walks

- ➡ Weekends; 2-hour-long bird watching walks for the general public
- ➡ Adults and a few older kids
- ➡ Year-round with more in fall and spring
- ➡ Free
- ➡ Staffed by James
- ➡ About 12 a year
- ➡ Emphasis is on teaching beginners the basic skills of identifying birds

Turtle Walks

- 🐢 Weekends; 1 to 2 hour walks for the general public focused on the western painted turtle
- 🐢 Families, lots of kids 4 to 10 years old
- 🐢 April to October
- 🐢 Staffed by James or by volunteer naturalists
- 🐢 Free
- 🐢 At least once a month during turtle season
- 🐢 In addition to thoroughly discussing turtle natural history and the plight of the western pond turtle, we observe and discuss other aquatic life we see or that comes up in questions. We often also see nutria or muskrat and lots of beaver sign.

Wetlands Explorers

- 🐢 Two-hour Wednesday morning programs for school-age kids on summer break with their parents
- 🐢 Almost always moms with their kids; some dads and grandparents come
- 🐢 School summer vacation, June-August
- 🐢 Staffed by James with some volunteer help
- 🐢 Free
- 🐢 Six programs a summer
- 🐢 Each week has a different theme such as birds, turtles, bugs, etc. Attendance has varied greatly and has generally been low. Several families are repeaters and come several times a summer.

Twilight Tuesdays

- 🐢 Wednesday nights -- ha, ha, just checking to see if you're awake!
- 🐢 Tuesday evenings starting about two hours before sunset; very quiet walks for the general public
- 🐢 Adults and families
- 🐢 Summer
- 🐢 Staffed by James
- 🐢 Free
- 🐢 Six a summer
- 🐢 These are so awesome! This is where people learn that they can actually see mammals like beaver, deer, raccoon, nutria, otter, and mice by using the proper stalking and observing techniques. On almost every trip at least one aquatic mammal was seen, often beaver when the water level was higher. Baby beaver, nutria, and muskrat have been seen on some trips. This experience has a very dramatic impact on some people.

Smith and Bybee Lakes Day

- One-day big event on a Saturday in May for the general public.
- Families, adults, and some youth groups
- Mid-May -- don't miss it!
- Staffed by volunteers, James, and Lupine the past two years. A great use of many volunteers
- Free
- The one day may draw 200 people and involve 20 volunteers; with more publicity we should be able to reach 400-500 people
- There is a morning bird walk and then the Journey Into Wetlands activity is ongoing from 11 AM to 4 PM. People walk through the wildlife area at their own pace and stop at four activity stations. The four stations are beaver, water birds, pond turtles, and water bugs.

Programs done by James Davis at other sites

Evening bird identification classes at Metro

- 🐦 Two-hour, weekday evening classes on bird identification held at Metro
- 🐦 Year-round except for summer and December
- 🐦 Adults, some families with older children, some high school students
- 🐦 Staffed by James
- 🐦 Charge of \$8 per person
- 🐦 About 10 a year
- 🐦 So far all these classes have been about basic bird watching skills, bird identification, feeding birds in your home, and the natural history of specific groups of birds, for example, birds of prey. Classes are on the birds most common during the season of the class. Saturday field trips are offered close to the time of the evening classes so people will both.

Other programs for various groups at their site

- 🐾 These programs vary the most and could be called "naturalist for hire." Although all attempts are made to focus these programs on Metro properties, some programs have been more on the general concepts of wildlife in the city, habitat protection, and the protection of natural areas and greenspaces.
- 🐾 Special school groups, such as TAG, alternative schools or treatment programs for youth, Portland Park Bureau programs, etc.
- 🐾 Random year-round
- 🐾 Staffed by James
- 🐾 A set fee is charged for the whole program (sometimes as much as \$100)
- 🐾 Topics vary but are all centered on the concepts of protecting and managing natural areas within the Metro area for wildlife and on the surprising diversity of wildlife that we do have in the Metro region

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Education Program Attendance Report

All Programs, 1996 - 2001

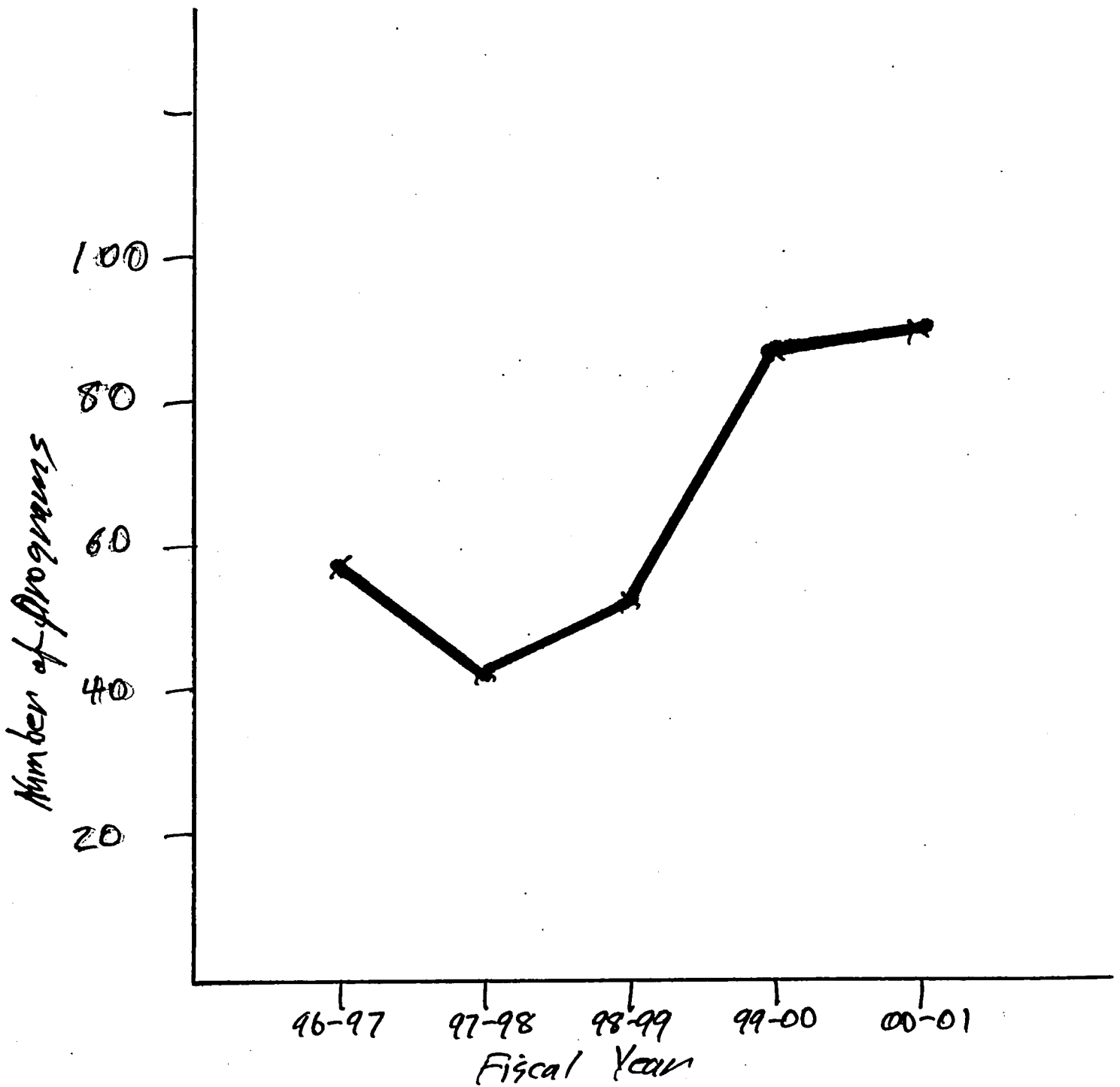
	1996-1997	1997-1998	1998-1999	1999-2000	2000-2001
Number of Programs	55	42	52	86	89
Total Attendance	1,353	1,398	1,195	1,798	1,691
Contact Hours	3,789	4,748	4,496	8,948	6,621

Summer Programs

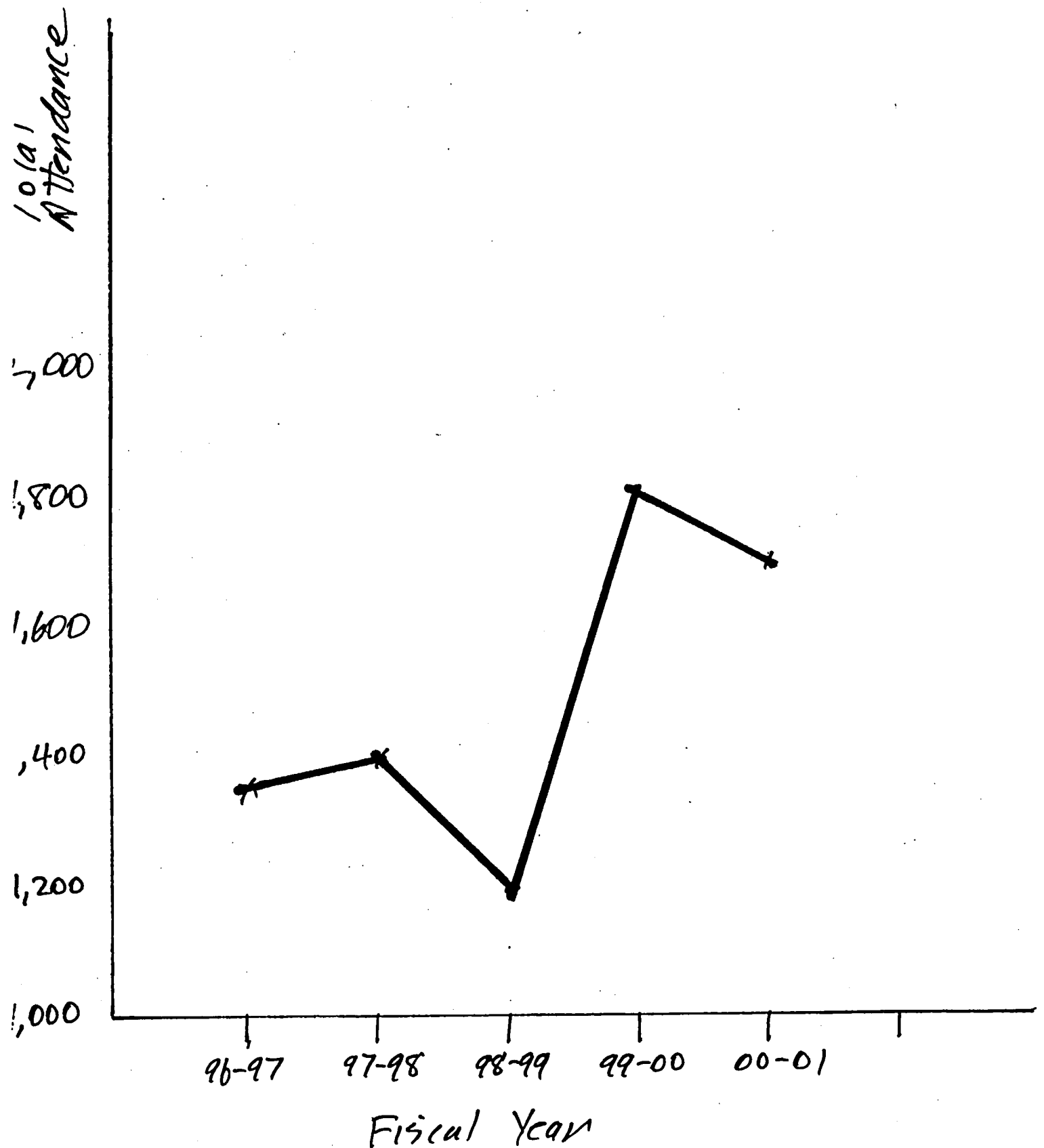
Summer	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001
Total Attendance	134	175	206	499	545	387
Contact Hours	612	495	694	1,480	2,807	1,800

James Davis, September, 2001

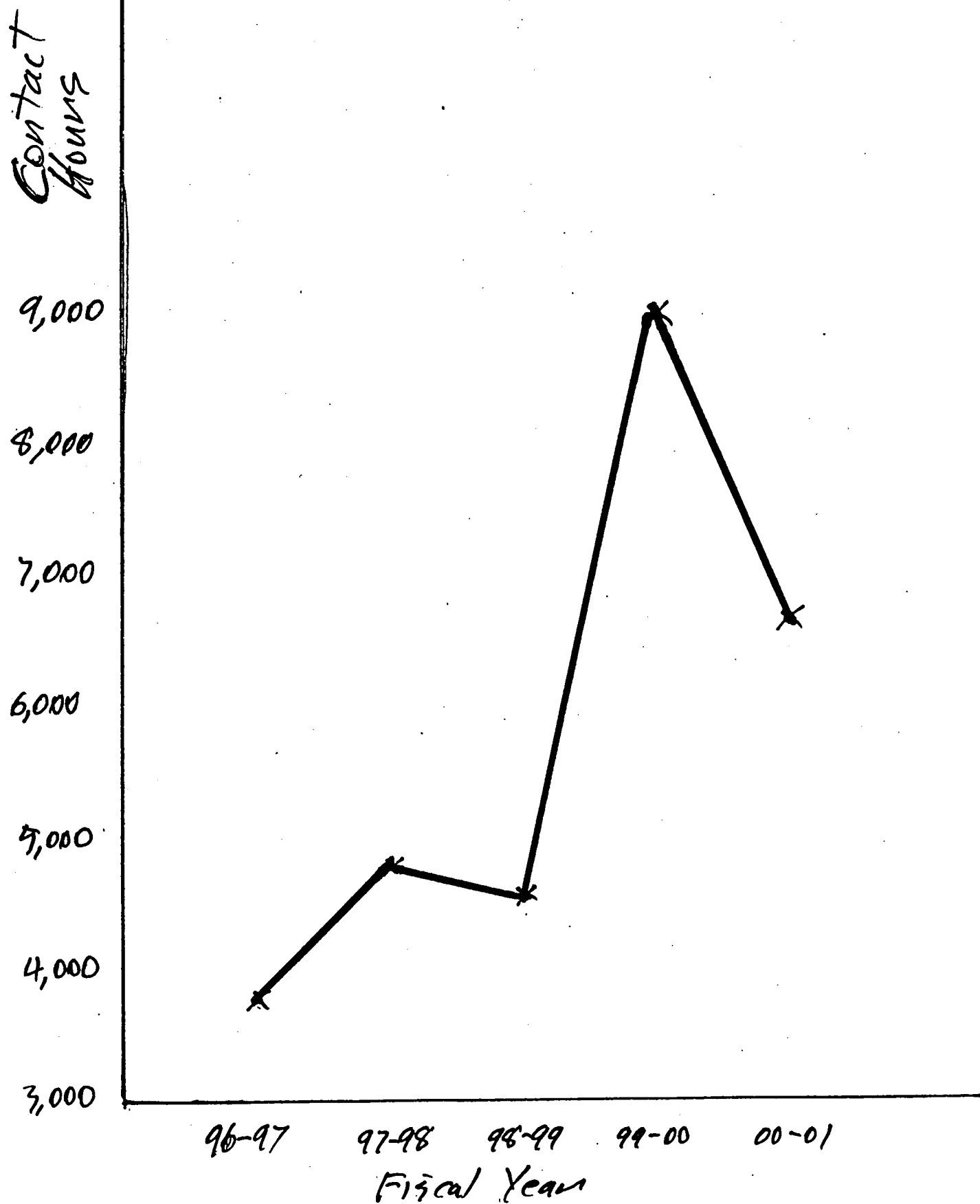
Smith & Bybee Lakes



Smith & Rybee Lakes



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Smith & Bybee Lakes Summer Attendance

Attendance

500
400
300
200
100

96

97

98

99

00

01

Summer

