

## LIN 6 Summary

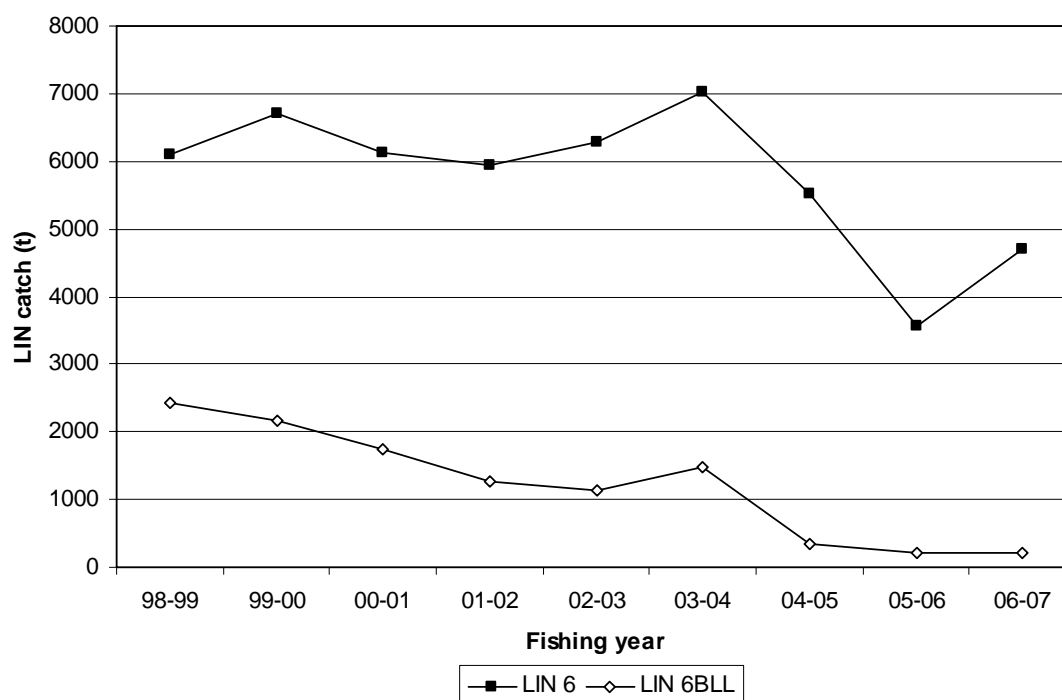
The ling fishery in Area 6 (LIN 6) is a mixture of bottom trawl, midwater trawl and bottom long-line fisheries; some target, some bycatch. The proportion LIN 6 taken by bottom long-line has decreased in the last 10 years. The total catch in LIN 6 is given in Table 1.

### LIN 6

The current total allowable commercial catch (TACC) for LIN 6 is 8505 t. The most recent stock assessment commented that the "... size of LIN 5&6 is estimated to be well above  $B_{MCY}$  and  $B_{MAY}$  ... and is likely to increase over the next 5 years at the most recent catch level. Catches at recent levels or at the level of the TACC are very likely to be sustainable in the medium term. The estimated yields are clearly indicative of some surplus ling production being available."<sup>1</sup>

**Table 1:** Catches in LIN 6 and catch of LIN 6 taken by bottom long-line

	98/99	99/00	00/01	01/02	02/03	03/04	04/05	05/06	06/07
LIN 6	6112	6707	6177	5945	6283	7032	5506	3553	4696
LIN 6 BLL	2433	2160	1747	1272	1126	1476	332	209	212
% BLL	40%	32%	29%	21%	18%	21%	6%	6%	5%



**Figure 1:** Catches in LIN 6 and catch of LIN 6 taken by bottom long-line

<sup>1</sup> Horn, P.L. 2008. New Zealand Fisheries Assessment Report 2008/24.

## **LIN 6B**

The proportion of the LIN 6 bottom long-line catch that has been taken in LIN 6B has varied substantially over the last ten years; the maximum being 100% in 2006/07 and the minimum 10% in 2004/05.

The catch of LIN 6B that has been taken within or close to the Territorial Sea of the Bounty Islands has varied among years. Given that only start position are reported for long-lines sets, it is likely that long-lines set outside the Territorial Sea may actually fish inside 12 nm. Twenty nautical miles was selected to give an indication of the fishing activity taking place just outside the Territorial Sea.

Within 20 nm of the Bounty Islands, catch has varied significantly among years between 1998/99 and 2006/07; the range was between 3% and 87% of the bottom long-line catch in LIN 6B. Within the Territorial Sea of the Bounty Islands, catch has also varied significantly among years; the range was 0% to 46% of the bottom long-line catch in LIN 6B.