Excerpt from the October 2017 SAFMC SSC report regarding the discussion of impacts analysis of Snapper Grouper AM 27 (Commercial Visioning) and SARIMA vs "Last 3" methodology:

15. SNAPPER GROUPER VISIONING AMENDMENTS

15.1 Documents

Attachment 1. Reg Amendment 26: Recreational Visioning Amendment
Attachment 2. Reg Amendment 27: Commercial Visioning Amendment
Attachment 3. Reg Amendment 27: Appendix J

15.2 Presentation

Amendment Overview: Myra Brouwer, SAFMC staff

15.3 Overview

At their September 2017 meeting, the Council reviewed options for actions/alternatives for both Visioning Amendments to the Snapper Grouper FMP. Regulatory Amendment 26 (Attachment 27) addresses management of the recreational fishery and Regulatory Amendment 27 includes changes to the management of the commercial sector. The Council is still considering how best to structure actions in Regulatory Amendment 26; analyses conducted to-date, therefore, will undoubtedly change as the amendments moving along the development process. The Council refined actions and alternatives in Regulatory Amendment 27 (Attachment 28) but the modifications were minor. Hence, preliminary technical analyses conducted to date on that amendment would benefit from SSC review. In particular, the SSC should comment on the appropriateness of the two methodologies used to predict landings under various scenarios. Analyses were performed by NMFS SERO staff and are contained in Attachment 29. Completion of the two Visioning amendments is scheduled for September 2018. The SSC will have another opportunity to review any technical analyses for these amendments, as needed, in Spring 2018.

15.4 **SSC RECOMMENDATIONS**

- Review and comment on the use and uncertainties of the two methods used in Actions 1-6 of Reg Amendment 27 to analyze the effects of the alternatives.
    - o Is one methodology more appropriate for use in these analyses?
        - ➢ *The complexity of the SARIMA model makes it less favorable as a management tool.*
        - ➢ *The last 3 years of data are likely more representative of the current fishery than using the entire data series.*
        - ➢ *The number of data points in the time series is sufficiently large enough to split the time series into two parts, using the first part to predict behavior of the second part, then using the actual values in the second part to determine how well the SARIMA model works.*

> - *Explore sensitivity to smoothing kernel/range.*
> - *Important to try and understand the changes in behavior of the fishing effort to different management perturbations.*

- o Do either of these approaches provide clearer management advice to the Council?
  > - See above.
- o Are there differences in relative risk or uncertainty between the two methods?
  > - See above.
- Comment on any other Actions or items as appropriate.
  > - *No further comments were provided*