



Figure 6.2. Percent of time that near-bottom oscillatory currents caused by surface waves exceed threshold of 0.1 m/s as a function of water depth and season. Wave bottom orbital velocity associated with surface waves calculated for winter (October through March) and summer (April through September) from significant wave height and period measured at NOAA Buoy for the period 1990 through 2002. At 50 m water depth, bottom wave orbital currents in excess of 10 cm/s occur about 2% of the time in winter and less than 0.5% of the time in summer.