



Figure 6. The barotropic mixed layer model (40 m mixed layer depth) provides estimates of the inertial velocity amplitude (top) and energy flux (bottom) based on 6 hourly NOGAPS wind stress at 34N, 128E (left) and 35N, 130E (right). High inertial velocity amplitudes in the model at the southern point correspond well with observed inertial oscillation energy at moorings along the south line (Figure 2) during May through September. Similarly, inertial velocity amplitudes at the northern point correspond with observed oscillation energy at moorings along the north line. Winter amplitudes and energy flux events are as large as those during summer. To account for the deepening winter thermocline, the inertial velocity amplitude is recomputed using a mixed layer depth of 100 m (bottom). Winter still indicates inertial oscillation that would be much larger than that observed (Figure 2). The implication is that another process is preventing inertial oscillations during winter.