THE EFFECT OF WIND STRESS ON TRANSPORT OF THE PACIFIC NORTH EQUATORIAL CURRENT

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ABSTRACT

During the Trade Wind Zone Oceanography study (February 1964 to June 1965) the transport of the Pacific North Equatorial Current was minimum in the spring of both 1964 and 1965 and maximum in the fall. The transport was closely related to the meridional slope of the 20C isotherm. Seasonal changes in the slope are caused by divergence in the Ekman layer (i.e., CURL of the wind stress divided by the Coriolis parameter).