



**Figure 10. Variations of water table depth with topographic slope for observations and simulations of three models. Spearman rank correlations shown in each subplot are based on the point cloud. Boxplots (without outliers) for better visualization of the point cloud are created by evenly separating slopes to ten bins. Boxplot and Spearman rank correlations in each subplot are distinguished by potential recharge. Red and blue are for points located in regions with and without long-term average potential recharge (i.e.,  $P-ET > 0$  and  $P-ET = 0$ ).**