For Immediate Release:

Ocean Recovery Alliance Founder Doug Woodring Inducted Into International Marathon Swimming Hall of Fame

San Francisco, CA (May 5, 2021) – The International Marathon Swimming Hall of Fame recently held its 2020 induction and award ceremony, which had been postponed due to the COVID-19 pandemic, in a virtual celebration instead of its typical in-person ceremony. Among the celebrated inductees in the prestigious Hall of Fame was Ocean Recovery Alliance Founder and Managing Director, Doug Woodring, born in the Bay Area and former Cal Swimmer.

“This is a tremendous honor,” Woodring said. “I am extremely grateful and truly humbled to be recognized by so many of my peers who I have worked with and respected for decades.”

A native of Marin County, Woodring is an accomplished open water swimmer, water polo player, and international outrigger canoe competitor, swam two years at Cal under the late, great Nort Thornton, when Cal finished 2nd place in the NCAAs in 1986. Woodring currently resides in Hong Kong where he continues to be active in water sports as both a competitor and race organizer. It was his love of swimming and water sports that led him to recognize the importance of protecting the ocean which is the lifeblood of our planet. He founded the Ocean Recovery Alliance as a way to find innovative solutions to deal with the global plastic pollution crisis that is having a devastating impact on our oceans.

“In one way or another, nearly my entire life has centered on the ocean,” Woodring said. “I firmly believe that those of us who use the ocean have an obligation to share our passion for protecting these vital resources with the rest of the world, and that’s what I’ve always tried to do as an athlete, event organizer, entrepreneur, and advocate. Everything I came to appreciate from sports and the outdoors came from California swimming.”

The International Marathon Swimming Hall of Fame was established in 1963 as a way to recognize and celebrate the accomplishments of the world’s top channel, marathon, stage, extreme, and circumnavigation swimmers as well as swimming coaches, escort pilots, and administrators. Woodring was one of 15 accomplished honorees from around the world who made up the Class of 2020 Class of inductees.

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