SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA COUNTY OF HUMBOLDT

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9 Attorneys for Plaintiff NORTHERN CALIFORNIA RIVER WATCH, a California non-profit corporation

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA

IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF HUMBOLDT

NORTHERN CALIFORNIA RIVER WATCH, a California non-profit corporation,

Plaintiff,

VS.

GENERAL GROWTH PROPERTIES, INC.; BAY SHORE MALL, LP; and DOES 1 through 10, inclusive,

Defendants.

Case No. DR 120 060

FIRST AMENDED COMPLAINT FOR DECLARATORY RELIEF, INJUNCTIVE RELIEF AND CIVIL FINES [CALIFORNIA COASTAL ACT – PUB. RES. CODE § 30000 ET SEQ].

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NOW COMES Plaintiff, NORTHERN CALIFORNIA RIVER WATCH ("PLAINTIFF"), by and through its counsel of record, and for its complaint against Defendants GGP, INC., ROUSE PROPERTIES, INC., BAY SHORE MALL, LP, and DOES 1-10, Inclusive ("DEFENDANTS"), states as follows:

### <u>INTRODUCTION</u>

1. This is a civil suit brought against DEFENDANTS under the citizen suit enforcement provisions of the California Coastal Act of 1976, California Pub. Res. Code § 30000 et seq. ("California Coastal Act"). This Complaint seeks relief from DEFENDANTS for illegally failing to comply with the requirements in Coastal Development Permit No. 1-85-83. The Coastal Development Permit, as a condition of issuance and the right to develop the "Bay Shore Mall" in Eureka, California, imposed terms and conditions requiring DEFENDANTS to restore 5.17 acres of wetlands located on the project site.

### **PARTIES**

- 2. Plaintiff NORTHERN CALIFORNIA RIVER WATCH is a 501 (c)(3) non-profit public benefit corporation duly organized under the laws of the State of California, with headquarters and main office located in the City of Sebastopol, California. PLAINTIFF is dedicated to protecting, enhancing and helping to restore the surface and subsurface waters of Northern California. PLAINTIFF'S members live in Northern California including Humboldt County where the property commonly referred to as the "Bay Shore Mall" located at 3300 Broadway between Truesdale Street and the extension of Mill Street in the City of Eureka, Humboldt County (the "Property,") under DEFENDANTS' operation and/or control which is the subject of this Complaint is located.
- 3. PLAINTIFF is informed and believes and thereupon alleges that Defendant GGP, Inc. is a Delaware corporation, registered with the California Secretary of State's Office to do business in the State of California, which as of November 2010, became is the successor in interest to General Growth Partners, Inc. Plaintiff is further informed and believes and thereon alleges that GGP, Inc. succeeded to General Growth Partners, Inc.'s obligations as owner and/or operator of the Property.

- 4. PLAINTIFF is informed and believes and thereupon alleges that Defendant GGP, Inc. is a Delaware corporation, registered with the California Secretary of State's Office to do business in the State of California. PLAINTIFF is informed and believes and thereupon alleges, that, as of November 2010, GGP, Inc. became the successor in interest to General Growth Partners, Inc. Plaintiff is further informed and believes and thereon alleges that GGP, Inc. succeeded to General Growth Partners, Inc.'s obligations as owner and/or operator of the Property.
- 5. PLAINTIFF is informed and believes and thereupon alleges that Defendant Rouse Properties, Inc. ("Rouse") is a Delaware corporation, registered with the California Secretary of State's Office to do business in the State of California. Plaintiff is further informed and believes and thereon alleges that, as of January 2012, Rouse succeeded to General Growth Partners, Inc. and GGP, Inc.'s obligations as owner and/or operator of the Property.
- 6. PLAINTIFF is informed and believes and thereupon alleges that Defendant Bay Shore Mall, LP is a Delaware corporation, registered with the California Secretary of State's Office to do business in the State of California. Plaintiff is further informed and believes and thereon alleges that Defendant Bay Shore Mall, LP is the owner and/or operator of the Property.
- 7. The true names and capacities of DEFENDANTS DOES 1-10, Inclusive, whether individual, corporate, or otherwise, are presently unknown to PLAINTIFF, who therefore sues DEFENDANTS by said fictitious name. PLAINTIFF is informed and believes that each of said fictitiously-named DEFENDANTS is responsible in whole or in part for the acts alleged herein. PLAINTIFF will seek leave of the Court to substitute the true names of said fictitiously-named DEFENDANTS when the same have been ascertained.
- 8. PLAINTIFF alleges that at all relevant times herein, each defendant was the agent, representative, employee, surrogate, partner, or joint venturer of each other defendant and in doing the actions alleged herein, acted within the scope of his/her/its authority as such agent, representative, employee, surrogate, partner, or joint venturer and acted with the permission and consent of DEFENDANTS.

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### **JURISDICTION**

- 7. The Humboldt County Superior Court has jurisdiction over this action pursuant to California Constitution, Article VI, Section 10, which grants the Superior Courts "original jurisdiction in all causes except those given by statute to other trial courts."
- 8. Venue is proper in Humboldt County because the violations of DEFENDANTS as alleged herein have occurred in Humboldt County, because the Property is located in Humboldt County and because the individual(s) affected by DEFENDANTS' actions as alleged in this Complaint suffered injury in fact in Humboldt County.

## STATEMENT OF FACTS

- 9. DEFENDANTS applied to the California Coastal Commission ("Commission") for a coastal development permit as required by the California Coastal Act to construct a new "major regional shopping center" on the Property.
- 10. On or about September 26, 1985, the Commission held a public hearing on DEFENDANTS' application, approving Coastal Development Permit No. 1-85-83 ("CDP") subject to stated conditions regarding the restoration of wetlands on the Property.
- 11. PLAINTIFF is informed and believes that DEFENDANTS have failed to comply with the CDP wetland restoration conditions, by, inter alia, failing to maintain the wetland.
- 12. On or about November 29, 2011, PLAINTIFF served Defendants General Growth Properties, Inc. And Bay Shore Mall, LP with a Notice of Violations and Intent to File Suit, identifying DEFENDANTS' alleged failure to comply with the CDP wetland restoration conditions and requesting DEFENDANTS contact PLAINTIFF within 30 days to discuss the Complaint For Declaratory Relief, Injunctive Relief and Civil Fines alleged California Coastal Act violations.
- 13. As of the date of the filing of this Complaint, DEFENDANTS have failed to comply with the CDP wetland restoration conditions.

#### FIRST CAUSE OF ACTION

## (DECLARATORY RELIEF FOR VIOLATIONS OF THE CALIFORNIA COASTAL ACT)

- 14. PLAINTIFF incorporates by reference the allegations contained in paragraphs 1 through 13 inclusive, of this Complaint as though set forth in full.
- 15. Pursuant to Pub. Res. Code § 30803, subdivision (a), the California Coastal Act provides in relevant part that "[a]ny person may maintain an action for declaratory and equitable relief to restrain any violation of this division ..."
- 16. An actual controversy exists between PLAINTIFF and DEFENDANTS in that DEFENDANTS have violated and are violating the California Coastal Act but refuse to admit the illegal nature of their activities.
- 17. Because of the controversy that exists among the parties, a declaration of the rights and responsibilities of the parties with respect to the California Coastal Act is necessary. Specifically, PLAINTIFF seeks a declaration from the Court that DEFENDANTS' have failed to comply with the CDP wetland restoration conditions, that DEFENDANTS' failure to comply with the CDP wetland restoration conditions constitutes a violation of the California Coastal Act; and, that DEFENDANTS' acts as alleged herein are separate and continuing violations of the California Coastal Act.

# SECOND CAUSE OF ACTION

# (INJUNCTIVE RELIEF FOR VIOLATIONS OF THE CALIFORNIA COASTAL ACT)

- 18. PLAINTIFF incorporates by reference the allegations contained in paragraphs 1 through 17 inclusive, of this Complaint as though set forth in full.
- 19. PLAINTIFF has no adequate remedy at law to require DEFENDANTS to reverse the consequences of their unlawful activities and, therefore, civil fines alone will not remedy the wrongs about which PLAINTIFF complains.
- 20. Unless this Court grants the equitable relief requested, PLAINTIFF will be irreparably harmed in that PLAINTIFF and its members will be deprived of both the aesthetic enjoyment and environmental protection of the natural resources in this part of the California Coastal Zone.

- 21. Pursuant to Pub. Res. Code § 30803, subdivision (a), the California Coastal Act provides in relevant part:
  - "... On a prima facie showing of a violation of this division, preliminary equitable relief shall be issued to restrain any further violation of the division. No bond shall be required for an action under this section."

## THIRD CAUSE OF ACTION

## (CIVIL FINES FOR VIOLATIONS OF THE CALIFORNIA COASTAL ACT)

- 22. PLAINTIFF incorporates by reference the allegations contained in paragraphs 1 through 21 inclusive, of this Complaint as though set forth in full.
- 23. Pursuant to Pub. Res. Code § 30820, subdivision (a), the California Coastal Act provides in relevant part for civil fines as follows:
- "(a) Any person who violates any provision of this division may be civilly liable in accordance with this subdivision as follows:

Civil liability may be imposed by the superior court in accordance with this article on any person who performs or undertakes development that is in violation of this division... in an amount that shall not exceed thirty thousand dollars (\$30,000) and shall not be less than five hundred dollars (\$500). Civil liability may be imposed for any violation of this division other than that specified in paragraph (1) in an amount that shall not exceed thirty thousand dollars (\$30,000)."

25. DEFENDANTS are liable for civil fines by virtue of the fact that they illegally failed to comply with the CDP wetland restoration conditions for the Property at issue in this Compliant as alleged herein.

### **FOURTH CAUSE OF ACTION**

# (DAILY FINES FOR VIOLATIONS OF THE CALIFORNIA COASTAL ACT)

- 26. PLAINTIFF incorporates by reference the allegations contained in paragraphs 1 through 25 inclusive, of this Complaint as though set forth in full.
- 27. Pursuant to Pub. Res. Code § 30820, subdivision (b), the California Coastal Act provides in relevant part for additional civil fines as follows:
  - "(b) Any person who performs or undertakes development that is in violation of this division ... when that person intentionally or knowingly performs or undertakes the development in violation of this division ... may, in addition to any other penalties, be civilly liable in accordance with this subdivision. Civil liability may be imposed by the superior court in an amount which shall not be less than one thousand dollars (\$1,000), nor more than fifteen thousand dollars (\$15,000), per day for each day in which the violation occurs."
- 28. DEFENDANTS, by virtue of their knowing, intentional and continuing violation(s) of the California Coastal Act, are liable for daily fines of up to fifteen thousand dollars (\$15,000) for each day in which the alleged violation(s) with respect to the Property have occurred and continue without abatement.

### PRAYER FOR RELIEF

WHEREFORE, PLAINTIFF prays for judgment against DEFENDANTS, as follows:

1. As to the First Cause of Action, for a declaration of the rights and responsibilities of the parties with respect to the California Coastal Act. Specifically, PLAINITFF seeks a declaration from the Court that DEFENDANTS have failed to comply with the CDP wetland restoration conditions as regards the Property, that DEFENDANTS' failure to comply with the CDP wetland restoration conditions constitutes a violation of the California Coastal Act, and that DEFENDANTS' actions are separate and continuing violations of the California Coastal Act.

- 2. As to the Second Cause of Action, for preliminary and permanent injunctive relief mandating DEFENDANTS to comply with the CDP wetland restoration conditions at issue in this Complaint.
- 3. As to the Third Cause of Action, for a civil fine of up to \$30,000 against DEFENDANTS for each act authorizing or engaging in or permitting activities in violation of the California Coastal Act.
- As to the Fourth Cause of Action, for a civil fine of up to \$15,000 per day against 4. DEFENDANTS for each day from the commencement of the violation(s) of the California Coastal Act to the date upon which DEFENDANTS comply with the requirements of the California Coastal Act.
  - As to all Causes of Action, for costs of suit herein. 5.
- As to all Causes of Action, for attorney's fees incurred by PLAINTIFF in prosecuting the 6. instant action as allowed by Calif. Code of Civ. Proc. § 1021.5 and/or any other applicable provision(s) of law.
- For such other and further relief as the Court deems just and proper. 7. Dated: August 2012

NARDELL CHITSAZ & ASSOCIATES LLP

By:

Attorneys for Plaintiff NORTHERN CALIFORNIA RIVER WATCH

PROOF OF SERVICE 1 2 I, Terry Odetto, state: My business address is 790 Mission Avenue, San Rafael, California, 94901. I am over the age 3 of eighteen years and not a party to this action. 4 On August 22, 2012, I served the foregoing document(s) described as: 5 FIRST AMENDED COMPLAINT FOR DECLARATORY RELIEF, INJUNCTIVE RELIEF AND CIVIL FINES [CALIFORNIA COASTAL ACT – PUB. RES. CODE § 6 30000 ET SEQ]. 7 on the following person(s) in this action: 9 Robert G. Wilson, Esq. Kevin M. Kemper, Esq. 10 GORDON KEMPER LLP 300 South Grand Avenue, 24th Floor 11 Los Angeles, CA 90071 Facsimile No.: (213) 452-8296 121 ATTORNEYS FOR Defendants General 13 Growth Properties, Inc., Bay Shore Mall, LP, GGP, Inc, and Rouse Properties, Inc. 14 15 BY MAIL. I placed each such sealed envelope, with postage thereon fully paid 16 X for first-class mail, for collection and mailing at San Rafael, California, following 17 ordinary business practices. I am readily familiar with this firm's practice of collection and processing of correspondence for mailing. Under that practice, it would be deposited with the 18 United States Postal Service on that same day. 19 BY OVERNIGHT MAIL. I deposited a true copy thereof in a sealed packet for overnight 20 delivery, with charges thereon fully prepared, for pickup by Federal Express. 21 22 BY PERSONAL SERVICE. I caused such envelope to be delivered by hand to the П addressee(s) noted above. 23 24 BY FACSIMILE. I caused said document to be transmitted by facsimile machine to the 25 number indicated after the address(es) noted above. 26 27

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1	BY ELECTRONIC DELIVERY. I transmitted the enclosed document(s) identified
2	above by electronic delivery to the following email addresses:  robert.wilson@gordonkemper.com; kevin.kemper@gordonkemper.com.
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4	I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California that the foregoing is true and correct. Executed on August 22, 2012, at San Rafael, California.
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