

## Judge M. Margaret McKeown reads from book about activist judge, 'Wilderness Bill'

Staff report Jackson Hole Daily :

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Valley Bookstore and Teton Science Schools have teamed up to present Judge M. Margaret McKeown for a reading and signing of her new book, “Citizen Justice: The Environmental Legacy of William O. Douglas — Public Advocate and Conservation Champion.”

The reading will begin at 6 p.m. Wednesday at Teton Science Schools’ Jackson campus.

A Wyoming native and graduate of the University of Wyoming and Georgetown University Law School, McKeown has served almost 25 years as a judge on the U.S. Court of Appeals for the 9th Circuit. She is a member of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences and an affiliated scholar at Stanford’s Center for the American West. An avid hiker, kayaker and skier, she frequently visits Jackson Hole, where she serves on the board of the Teton Science Schools and chairs its Murie Ranch Committee.

In fact, the inspiration for her book came from a snowshoe trip on the Murie Ranch in Moose, according to a press release from Valley Bookstore and Teton Science Schools.

Supreme Court Justice William O. Douglas, sometimes called “Wild Bill,” is often remembered for his four wives and then-Congressman Gerald Ford’s effort to impeach him. But McKeown suggests a better sobriquet would be “Wilderness Bill” for his remarkable conservation advocacy and impact on preserving the nation’s landscape.

In her book, McKeown explores Douglas's role in conservation and his impact on American politics and the judiciary, as well as the inherent ethical tensions with his role as a justice.

"He was no ordinary justice," the event press release explains. "He had an outsized personality, outsized ambitions, and outsized influence. He literally ran a one-man lobby shop from the Supreme Court."

The event is free and open to the public. Copies of "Citizen Justice" will be available for sale.