

*BWA's NEW EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR*

## **Kelly Gallo**

Kelly Gallo grew up on a Christmas tree farm in Orangeville, Pa., and has lived in Utah for the past 16 years. She returns to the Poconos with longtime experience as a conservation outreach professional connecting people of all ages to natural resources.

“Like many committed to the Brodhead Watershed Association, my life has been carved by creeks and rivers,” Gallo said. “My childhood was spent playing in Fishing Creek, turning over rocks to look for bugs and crayfish. This led to a career of introducing people of all ages to macroinvertebrates, water quality, and watersheds as well as a lifelong commitment to facilitating connections with the natural world.”

Most recently, Gallo was an environmental health scientist at Summit County Health Department, Park City, Utah.

Previous positions she held in Utah include coordinator of public programs at Hogle Zoo in Salt Lake City; environmental education consultant, Cottonwood Canyons Foundation, Salt Lake City; STEM educator and curriculum coordinator at Alianza Academy, West Valley; and environmental education specialist at Soldier Hollow Charter School, Midway. She was also a snowboard instructor and activities guide at Park City Mountain Resort, Park City.

While previously living in Pennsylvania, Gallo was an environmental education specialist for the Bureau of State Parks at Hickory Run State Park, White Haven.

She graduated in 1999 with a bachelor’s degree in elementary education from Bloomsburg University of Pennsylvania, and took graduate-level coursework in zoology, conservation, and education at Miami University, Utah State University, and University of Montana.

“It is evident by BWA’s success that there is a wealth of knowledge and contribution by amazing volunteers, board members, partners, and staff. I am most excited about working with this dedicated team,” Gallo said.

When not at work, Gallo likes to travel, garden, mountain bike, hike, snowboard, hunt and fish. She is an advanced diver in the Professional Association of Diving Instructors and enjoys whitewater sports.

“After living in a cold desert in Utah for the past 16 years, I am excited to return to the Poconos and its plethora of water resources,” she said. “I have many fond memories of great times with friends rafting and kayaking on the Lehigh River and exploring the streams of Hickory Run State Park. The rivers and streams of the Poconos have traditionally been my favorite hiking destinations.”

She and her husband, Clark, are in the process of moving their household from Utah to the Poconos. They have two dogs, River and Mousse, who often accompany them on their outdoor adventures.

