Jason Schlender was born in Madison, Wisconsin, raised on the Lac Courte Oreilles Ojibwe reservation, and is currently the Executive Administrator of the Great Lakes Indian Fish and Wildlife Commission (GLIFWC). He has also served as Vice Chairman of the Lac Courte Oreilles Tribal Governing Board and Chairman of GLIFWC's Voigt Inter-Tribal Task Force. He graduated from Hayward High School and holds a bachelor's degree from University of Wisconsin-Superior, a Master's degree from the University of Minnesota-Duluth, and is currently pursuing his Doctorate of Education from the University of Wisconsin-Green Bay.