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ACADIA NATIONAL PARK, MAINE, U.S.A.

This popular sandy beach is seen in the fall season with the foliage in color. Yellow leaves come from birch trees (*Betula* sp.), red leaves from maples (*Acer* sp.) and the green are spruce (*Picea* sp.) and fir (*Abies* sp.) trees. This is a youthful forest that burned in 1947. The beach is composed of cold-water carbonate sands comprised of barnacles (*Balanus* sp.), blue mussels (*Mytilus edulis*) and echinoderm (*Strongylocentrotus droebachiensis*) spines. The mountain in the background is composed of Silurian granite. (Photograph taken October 2008, and caption by Joseph T. Kelley, Department of Earth Sciences, University of Maine, U.S.A.)