South Kawishiwi Campground is located 10.3 miles south of Ely off of State Highway 1.

Birch Lake Campground is located about 13 miles southeast of Ely. Follow State Highway 1 for 8 miles to Forest Road 429. Turn right on Forest Road 429, continue for 4 miles on gravel road to campground entrance. Turn left and continue one mile to the campground.

Features for South Kawishiwi

- 31 Campsites, back-in only
- Picnic area, Swimming beach
- Drinking water
- Shallow boat landing
- One-mile hiking trail
- Historic log pavilion
- Campground host (summer)
- Accessible campsites 2,6,8

Description

South Kawishiwi Campground offers a variety of opportunities for campers including: fishing, hiking, mountain biking, canoeing, boating, and bird watching. Some campsites will accommodate larger recreational vehicles. Sites sit well above the river. Campground access roads are gravel.

The historic log pavilion was built by the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) in 1933. It is available for summertime rentals. Contact the reservation service.

The Kawishiwi River provides access to Birch Lake to the south and the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness (BWCAW) to the north. No motors are allowed in this part of the BWCAW and self-issue day permits are required and are available on site, at Forest Service Offices, or BWCAW entry points.