C&A Pro

Boondocking Xtreme Ski

Through varying profiles, skags or material choices, snowmobile ski designers are tasked with a mission to provide riders with the right feel. Some snowmobilers prefer a flexible ski that soaks up the jarring impacts of moguls, while others strive for deep-snow flotation and grip on the deep powder days. Last season I checked out the C&A Pro Boondocking Xtreme (BX) and found it to be one of the most well-blended skis on the market for its ample trail grip and deep-snow flotation and turning ability.

Having 12 inches of dry, light fluff on a sugary base does not provide a good gripping surface for just about any ski, but these snow conditions on my first day with the BX skis hit on one of their strong suits. On slight off-camber hills, the BX kept the 600 Pro-RMK I used as a test mule on-course without pushing through sidehills.

Standing on the uphill side and turn-



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hts These billet

weights are 30% wider than

OEM, and offer up to 10 grams





Boondocking Xtreme Ski - \$439.95 **C&A Pro** Hutchinson, Minnesota 888/321-6789 caproskis.net

INSTALL: Soak the rubber saddle bumpers in hot water to make them more pliable.

HARDPACK: Tons of grip from the deep, squared keel and long runner.

DEEP SNOW: They float and handle well, but the amount of required counter-steer was surprising for how far the bars had to be turned and the machine leaned on sidehills

ing the bars had me steering in the uphill direction I wanted to go without having to heave the machine onto one ski to continue on my intended path. The Pro-RMK is a light and maneuverable machine whether planted on two skis or skating along on one, and the BX didn't detract from its playfulness. The rear tip of the ski with its upward tapered design acted as a rudder when cutting into slopes, and the cut peripheral sides let me pull the machine onto one ski more easily than a ski with a straight edge.

Later in the season I swapped the skis onto my boosted 800 Pro-RMK. While the skis were on the ground far less often, they stayed predictably controllable when set down in powdery fluff or sticky springtime snow.

The BX has three ski loop mounting holes to pull the leading edge higher or push it flatter, but I didn't notice much of a change from one hole to the others for how the ski handled bumps, soft snow or transitions. I felt better grip on trails compared to the stock Polaris Gripper skis, and even in the crusty corduroy left by the groomer, the Backcountry X skis didn't twitch, and they held their line.

— T.J. Krob �