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The Northstar from BRK&T

Sharpshooter

- Gear reviews and tests - Edged tools - Fixed blades -



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Description :

A test of the prototype of the latest field and woodcraft knife from Bark River Knife and Tools: the Northstar.

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I took the latest prototype of the Bark River North Star out today to put it thru the paces. After consulting Sargey for some more tests, I decided on two difficult tests for the knife.

I found a fallen osage orange sapling which would be a perfect test medium. First was the obligatory chopping... actually simulating a "survival situation" I would need a baton for the next two steps and chopping is the only way to shorten a large branch without an axe, saw or baton.



With the big baton cut free, I decided to put it to work making a more suitable replacement . The convex blade did a good job on the osage trunk, the blade spine took the pounding while the edge stayed shaving sharp.



Note the diameter of the trunk compared to the knife blade; impressive huh?



The edge stayed sharp enough to peel away the bark in nice long curls.

Next came the test that I am most squeemish about... splitting the trunk. One would need to do this to reach the dry wood in the center if he were out in a rain soaked area. The technique I chose was using the baton to drive the knife straight thru the center of the trunk and then baton down completing the split.

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Word of a new knife coming from Bark River Knife and Tool must have spread as I had a very inquisitive spectator while I did this part of the test.





She approved of the knife and test and left me to my work; no doubt looking to gather a few Bucks so she can call Mike and order one for herself.

Here it is waiting to do some splitting...

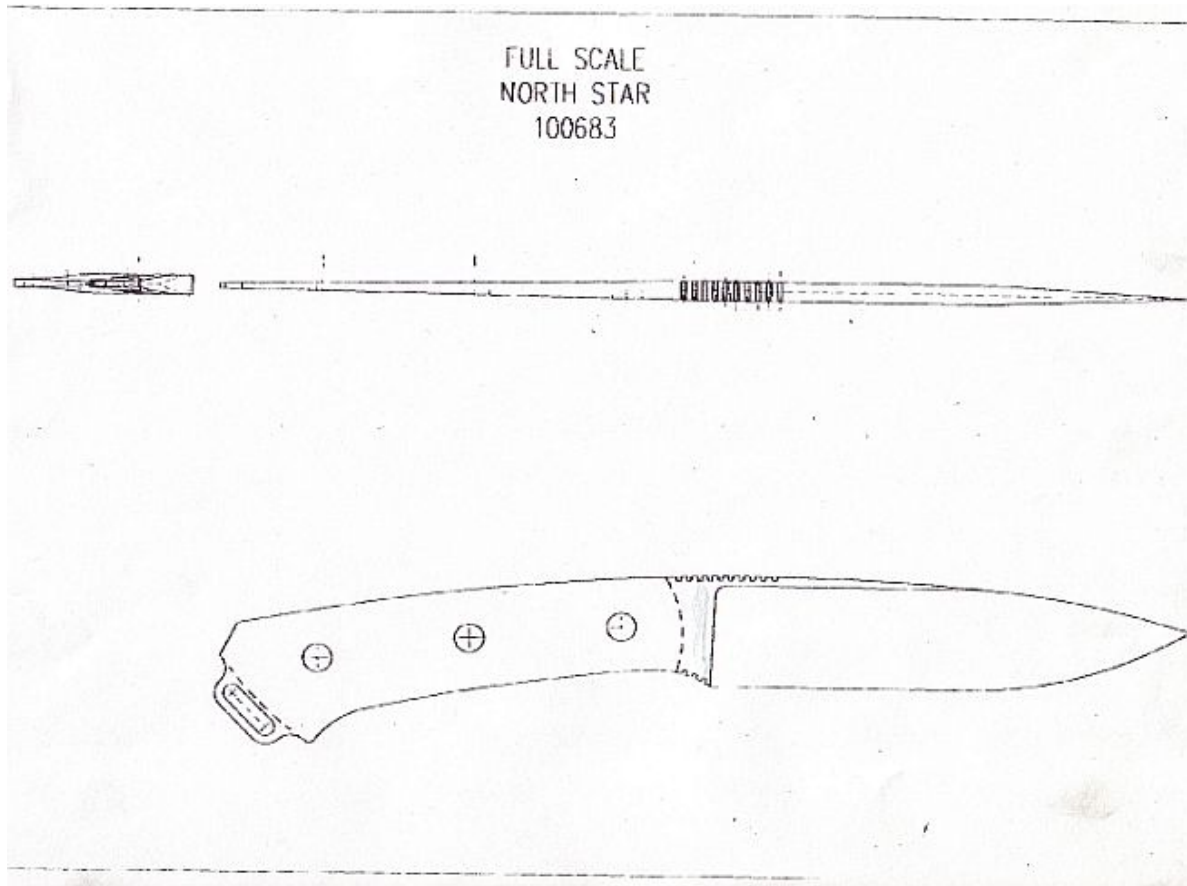


Once the splitting was completed, I shaved some more curls and was ready for a fire.



The last cut the knife made was to prove that after all of this abuse it could still cut meat... trust me, it can... OUCH!

The North Star prototype did a great job, I can't wait for the full size prototype and then it's production time. This one will be worth the wait, like all Bark River Knives it'll be a great value and a great knife.



Reid

Post-scriptum :More, including specifications at: [Bark River Knife & Tool](#)