

Today is _____, _____ the _____. This is Ken Morgan's Northcoast Ag Report, our lead story is about _____ when we return

August 8, 2018

Dear reporters and editors:

[Kate Wilkin](#) is a relatively new forestry, fire science and natural resources advisor for UC Cooperative Extension. She serves Sutter, Yuba, Butte, Nevada and Placer counties, and can speak to the issue of fire behavior and resilience.

Wilkin has a doctorate degree from UC Berkeley, where she studied the relationship between fire, forest diversity and water. She joined UC Cooperative Extension in 2017.

Following is a statement from Dr. Wilkin that can be used in news stories. In addition, she is available for interviews by calling her cell phone at **(530) 645-2631**.

"You can reduce the chance of your home burning by taking preventative measures, but there will always be a chance that it burns.

"The fire tornado that struck Redding is perfect example. Some people in this region likely had fire resistant homes and defensible space, but their homes succumbed to this extreme fire.

"In other neighborhoods, it is hard to understand why one home burned and another is still standing. However, when you start to understand why homes burn, often through embers igniting fuel in home attics or adjacent to homes, then it is easier to understand these patterns.

"Unfortunately, many homes have been lost to wildfire during the past decade. Much has been learned about why homes burn, and our California laws are now lagging behind the latest science. If people follow the latest recommendations from UC, FireWise, National Fire Protection Association, and the Insurance Institute for Business and Home Safety, then the chance that they will lose their home during most fires is much smaller. Making your home fire resistant with defensible space takes work and money, but it is worth it to reduce the chance that you will lose your home in a wildfire. "

Following are additional resources:

- Kate Wilkin's website is <http://cesutter.ucanr.edu/LivingWithFire>

- Read a [feature story](#) (and download photos) about Wilkin making her own Grass Valley home more resilient to fire: <http://ucanr.edu/blogs/blogcore/postdetail.cfm?postnum=26098>
- [FireWise](#)
- [National Fire Protection Association](#)
- [Insurance Institute for Business and Home Safety](#)
- [A complete list of UC ANR fire science experts.](#)

Sincerely,

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[Available Soon - New Dairy Revenue Protection Insurance](#)

Risk Management Agency Administrator Martin Barbre explains a new insurance product for dairy producers available for sign-up starting October 9th.