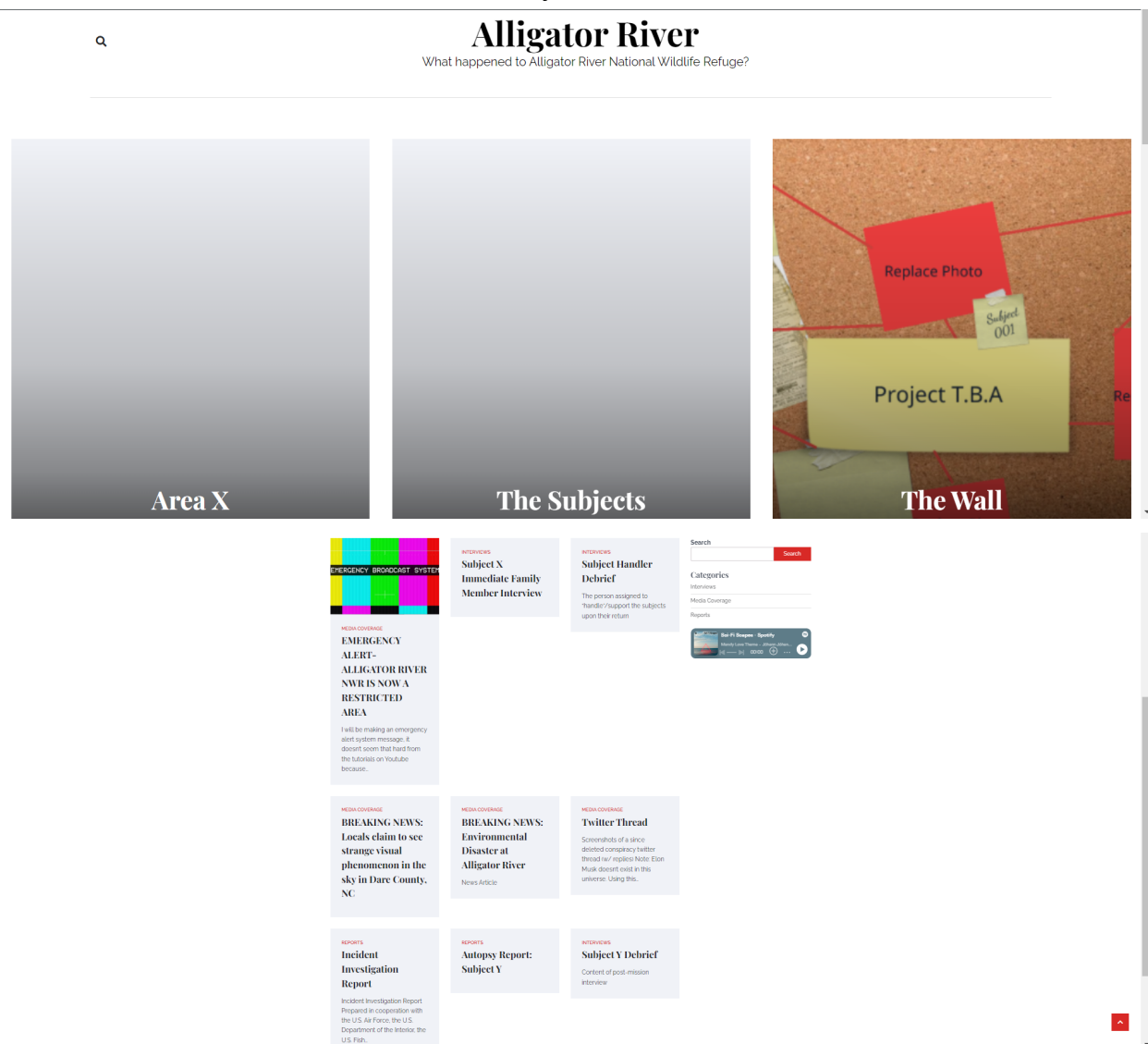


Final Project Critical Reflection

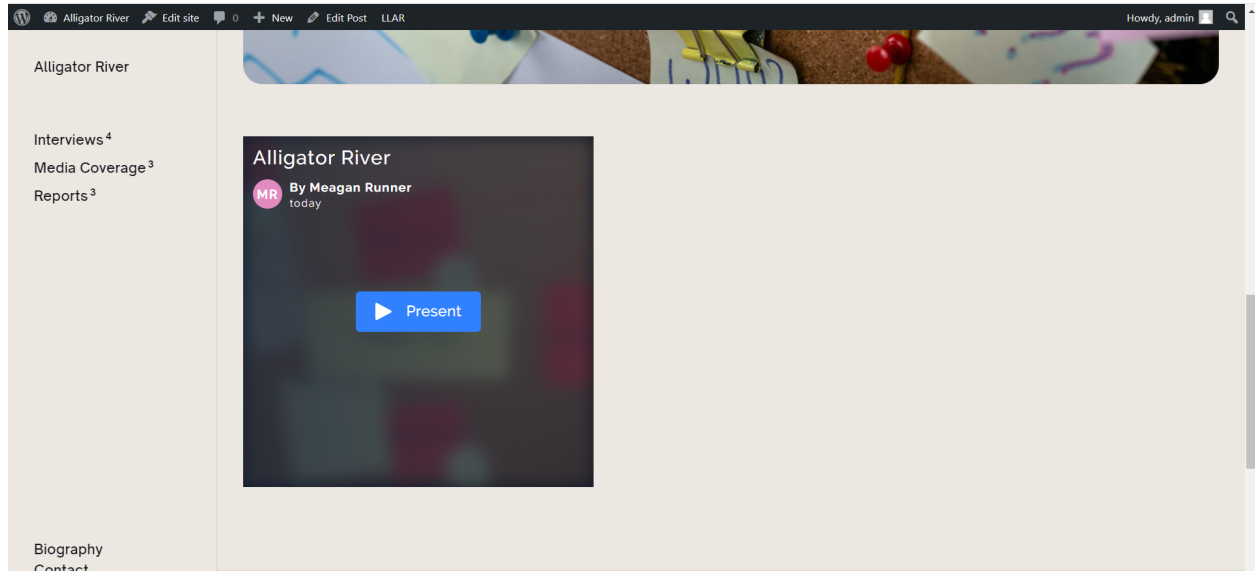
For my final project, I chose to build a wordpress website for my digital story final project in ENGL 4837W: Digital Storytelling. There were a lot of different options for how we could present our story and what software we could use to build a website to host it: Canva, Wix, SquareSpace, etc. While it may have been easier for me to use one of these, I figured since I was already familiar with Wordpress and could get the most versatility out of it.

I first chose a different theme for my site...



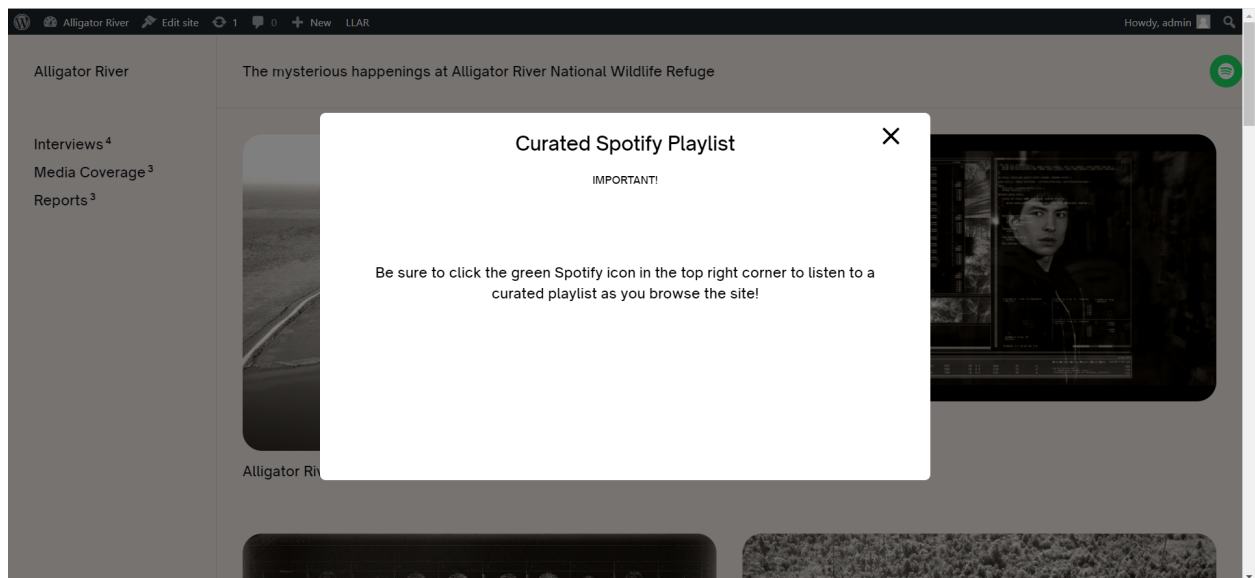
But I quickly found it too sanitized for the story and overall, just too general and clean – it looked like a news site, which was not what I was going for. The Wall page at the top also ended up becoming irrelevant, I chose the theme because I wanted a page

with a Prezi embed to be prominent as one of the first things people clicked on, since the Prezi was a major part of my story at first. The Prezi was actually kind of tricky to figure out, since I couldn't just directly embed it like any other media type, but I eventually did with a plugin.



This was after I changed my theme, and I didn't think the Prezi was adding anything to my story anymore, so I scrapped it.

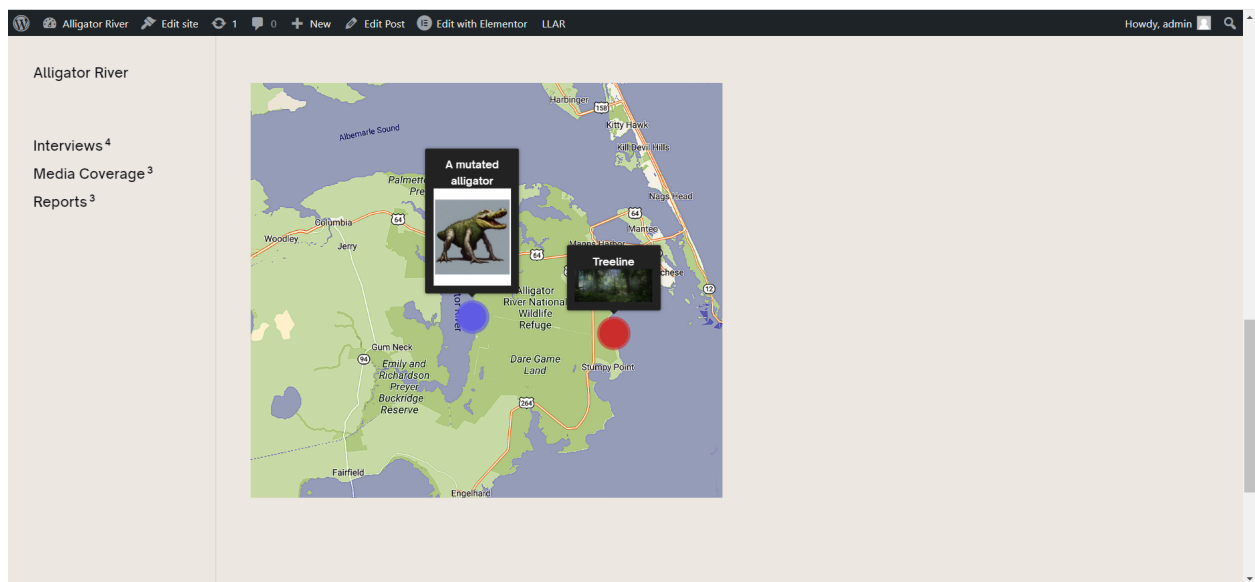
I also ended up changing the spotify embed that was directly on the page into an icon in the top right that opened the playlist on a new page, since I thought that looked cleaner. Since that made it harder for the reader to notice, I used a popup plugin to prompt them to start the playlist when they first get to my website.



Another cool thing is my video popup, which I am extremely proud of! I made the video myself (I don't have any experience with video editing) with an android app, but since I have an iPhone, I had to download an android emulator onto my computer so I could use it. It was harder than I thought it would be, probably because I ran into quite a few technical difficulties with the emulator, but eventually I got the video finished! It's set up with a plugin as well, so that the video popup plays first, and then after about 60 seconds the Spotify pop up displays.



The last notable thing was my image hotspot plugin, which I used to make an “interactive” map.



For this specific image hotspot plugin, I had to download elementor. I didn't really like this plugin, since most of the features are paid, but I found a different plugin that

would let me put more hotspots on the map. I am planning on redoing this part before I turn in my final project for Digital Storytelling, but since it's going to look pretty much the same and I'm only changing it because it will elevate my actual story and not necessarily the site, I figured I would still include it.