Creating a HeatMap – Caroline Murray

After reading through the Creating a HeatMap report, I thought that it was effective in showing how you can create a HeatMap within leaflet. I like the way the information was conveyed through an easily accessible slideshow. The slideshow worked very well on the webpage and was easy to follow. The webpage, as a whole, looked very professional and provided concise relevant information to the reader on the basics of the project. I really liked how the slideshow was very comprehensive on the entire process of the project. It was easy to follow step by step how you acquired your data, found a plugin, edited your code, and then modified the code to better customize your map for your purposes. I also found it very interesting that you collected and used your own data for this project.

While reading through your report, there was some additional information that I believe would have benefited the overall project. When you were describing the different plugins, I thought it would have been helpful to include a little more information on what distinguishes them from each other and the advantages or disadvantages between them. Also, in the report it was emphasized how challenging, but also important it is, to find the source code for the plugin. I think it would have been better to elaborate a little more about this for those of us who do not understand the importance of this process. Finally, it would have been beneficial to describe a little bit more about your data collection process and how it works with this plugin. I was left wondering how you determined the point on the map since the bird can be seen from a far way away and how you ensured you didn’t double count.

Overall, I found this project and example to be very informative and helpful. I could definitely see myself using a leaflet plugin for heat maps when I am working on my final project. A lot of the data that has been used so far in this class would benefit from being used in a heatmap to better represent density. Previously I had attempted to figure out how to use a heat map to display COVID-19 cases datapoints and I believe this project helped me find a possible solution for my problem.