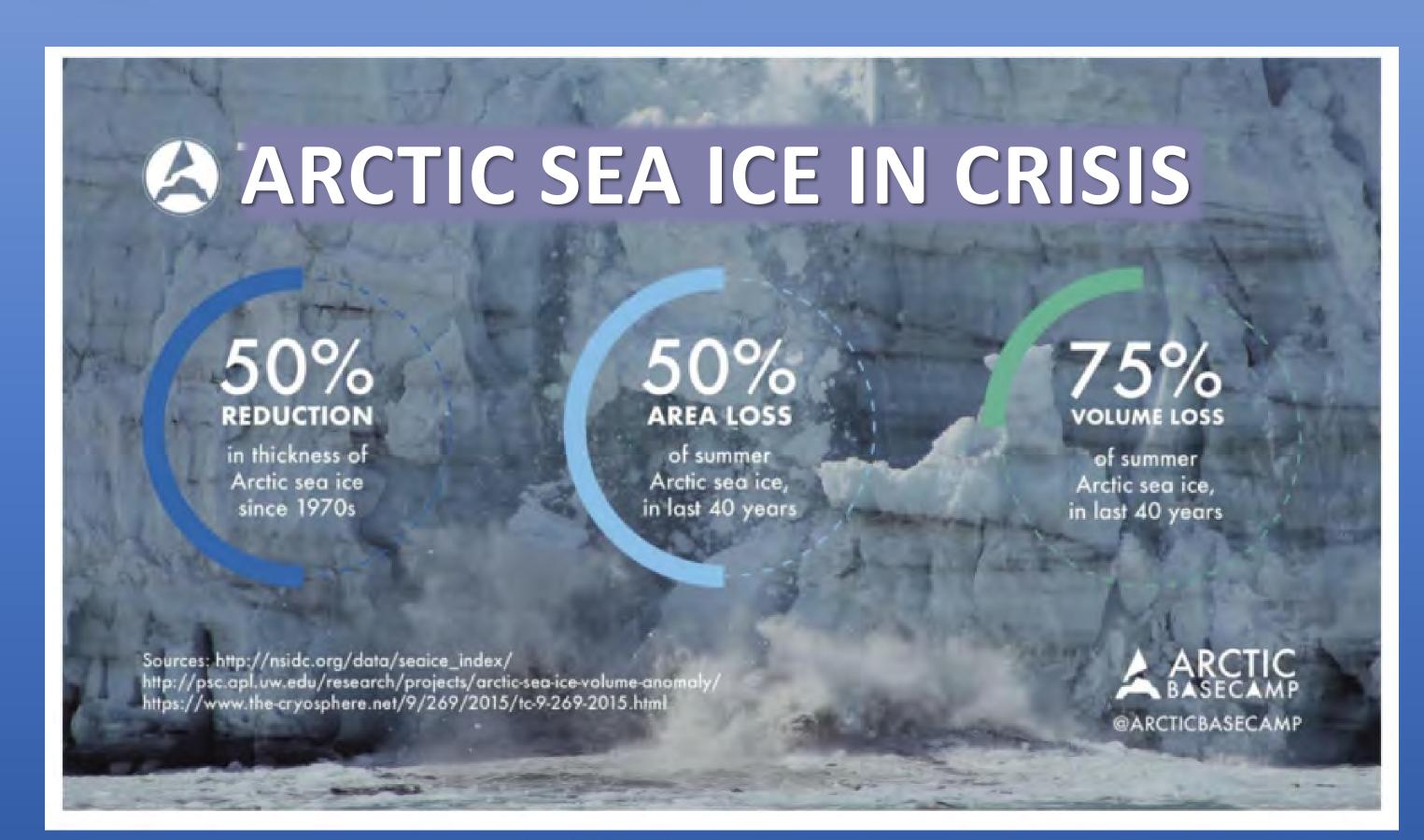
The Shrinking Arctic Mirror Affects Us All

Sea-Ice Loss Is a Threat Multiplier

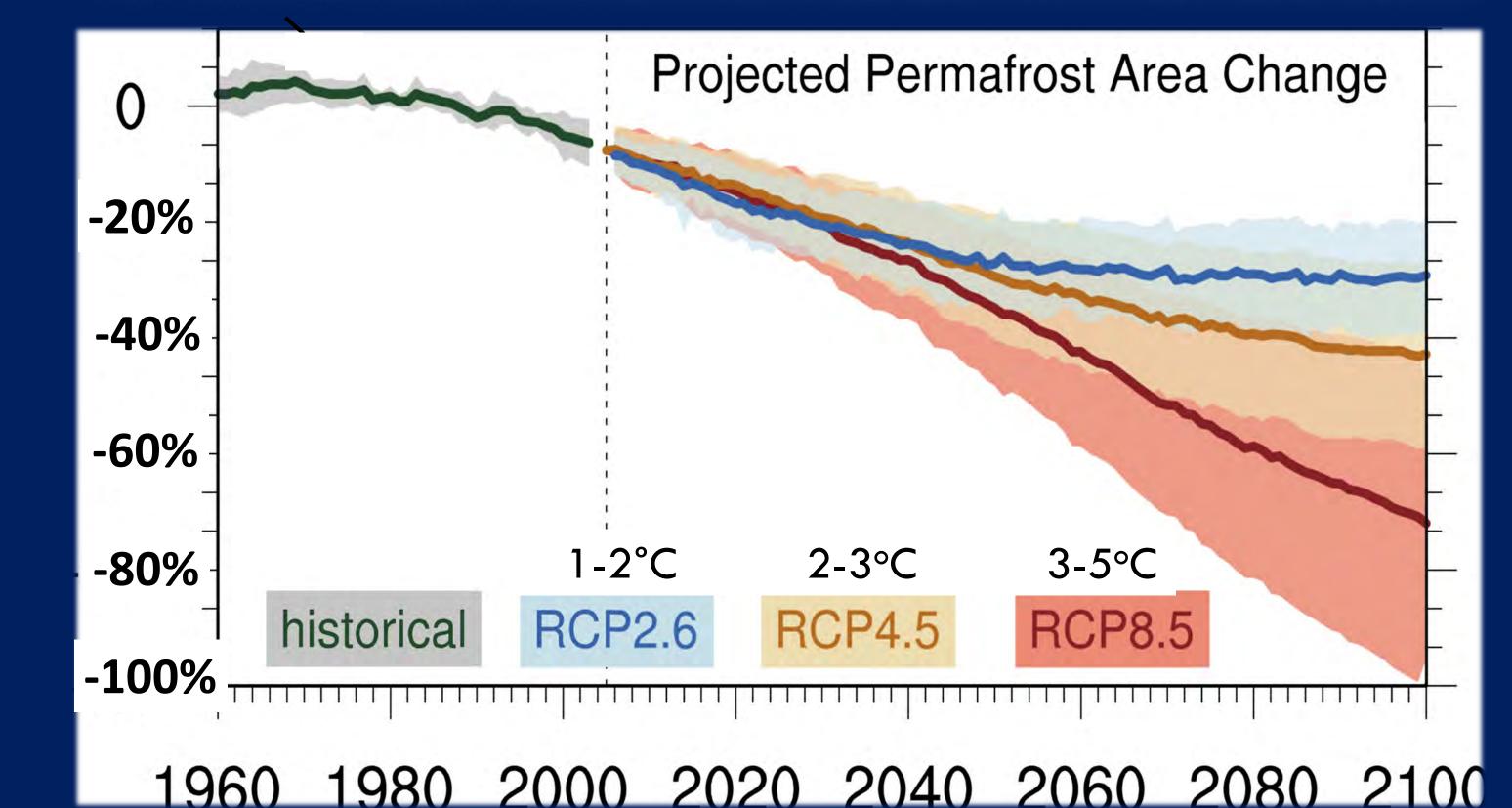
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A. Shimbun, Getty Images

Greenland melt



The loss of sea ice – the Earth's mirror – darkens the globe, allowing more solar energy to be absorbed by the planet...with major consequences:

- Global warming is 25% to 40% stronger
- Arctic warming is 2 to 4 times faster than elsewhere
 - > Altering weather patterns
 - Disrupting ecosystems
- Arctic warming is accelerating surface melt of Greenland's ice sheet and Arctic glaciers
 - > Faster sea level rise
 - Increasing coastal flooding and storm surge
 - Disrupting ocean currents
- Arctic warming hastens the thawing of permafrost (frozen soil)
 - > Releasing carbon dioxide and methane
 - Damaging roads and buildings



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