Floating mines in Black Sea hit Danube ship traffic: report

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Ukrainian border guards last week closed several shipping lanes at the mouth of the River Danube because of drifting mines in Black Sea, according to analyst APK-Inform.

The Ukrainian Danube ports of Izmail and Reni were the only sea routes last week for Ukrainian grain exports. Ukraine used to export most of its goods through seaports, but since Russia's invasion the country has been forced to export by train via its western border, or via its small Danube River ports.

APK-Inform said that the traffic along the Danube was significantly limited "because of the danger of blowing up ships on laid in the Black Sea by Russian troops."

"Only ports in the Ukrainian waters of the Danube region were fully operated. But they have rather limited bandwidth, leading to accumulation of transport on suitable roads," APK-Inform consultancy said in a report.