Contact Info:

Best Friends Animal Society Eric Rayvid 917-861-8290 <u>Ericr@BestFriends.org</u>

Southern Red Sands Robert Behunin, PhD 801.400.3649 robert.behunin@rrpartners.com

January 9, 2020

Joint Statement from Southern Red Sands and Best Friends Animal Society

For the last two years, Southern Red Sands has been engaged in due diligence activities in Kane County. Based on those activities and other feasibility assessments, Southern Red Sands has decided not to pursue its business ventures in Kane County.

Since the plan for the mine was made public, Best Friends Animal Society has sought a solution that would protect the Sanctuary from future mining projects of this type and its potential impacts. Now that SRS has determined not to move forward, Best Friends is working with SRS to preserve the land, water and wildlife habitat and to sustain Best Friends Animal Society's Sanctuary.

Over the course of the next few months, Southern Red Sands and Best Friends will continue to work together as they sort through a variety of details including working with the community to ensure continued benefit as things move forward.

Both Southern Red Sands and Best Friends Animal Society appreciate the support and involvement of community leaders and residents in the process.

###