Ruby - Feature #16995

Sets: <=> should be specialized

06/26/2020 08:43 PM - marcandre (Marc-Andre Lafortune)

Status:	Closed	
Priority:	Normal	
Assignee:		
Target version:		

Description

This is quite minor, but Set#<=> should be refined.

Reminder: Set defines <, >, etc. as inclusion, but does not have a corresponding <=>:

```
Set[1] < Set[1, 2] # => true
Set[1] <=> Set[1, 2] # => nil, should be -1
Set[1] <=> Set[2] # => nil, ok, not orderable
```

The official stated reason for Set to *not* implement is that some sets are not comparable. That is exactly what nil result type is for IMO. Sets are partically ordered and <=> should reflect that. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Partially_ordered_set

```
Set[1] < Set[1, 2] # => true
[Set[1], Set[1, 2]].sort # => ArgumentError, should be [Set[1], Set[1, 2]]
[Set[1], Set[2]].sort # => ArgumentError, ok, can't be ordered
```

This is exactly the same idea as Class, which correctly refines <=>:

```
Array < Enumerable # => true
Array <=> Enumerable # => -1, ok
[Array, Enumerable].sort # => [Array, Enumerable]
[Array, String].sort # => ArgumentError (comparison of Class with Class failed), ok
```

Related issues:

Related to Ruby - Feature #16989: Sets: need ♥□

Assigned

History

#1 - 06/26/2020 08:47 PM - marcandre (Marc-Andre Lafortune)

- Related to Feature #16989: Sets: need ♥□ added

#2 - 01/01/2023 01:04 PM - zverok (Victor Shepelev)

- Status changed from Open to Closed

Implemented in Ruby 3.0:

```
Set[1] <=> Set[1, 2]
# => -1
[Set[1], Set[1, 2]].sort
# => [#<Set: {1}>, #<Set: {1, 2}>]
```

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